THE

CENTINEL.

VOL. I.

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1607/4623

CENTINEL.

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THE

CENTINEL.

Si qui promittit cives, urbem sibi curæ, Imperium fore, & Italiam, & delubra Deorum.

Hor.

VOL. I.



The SECOND EDITION.

DUBLIN:

Printed by JAMES HOEV, Junior, at the Mercury in Skinner-Row. MDCCLVIII.

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DUBLIN:

Channel by James Honey, John, at 1985.



MÆCENATEM.

MECENAS, ATAVIS EDITE REGIBUS,

O& PRESIDIUM & DULCE DECUS MEUM.

HOR.

[Anglice]

TO

The Right Honourable PHILIP STANHOPE,

Earl of CHESTERFIELD,
THIS WORK
IS HUMBLY INSCRIBED.

BY

His affectionate Friend,

And most obedient Servant,

The CENTINEL.

MIECENATEM.

A SECENCE STATE EDITE RECIETS

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The Right Honourable

PHILIP STANHOFE,

Edil of CHESTERFIELD.

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LE PUMBLE. INCLIBED.

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The CENTINEE.



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Should teach bet other manners than ber own

Mottos and Quotations.

GENERAL MOTTO, in the Title. Promise faithfully to guard the state, The Gods, the Temples, and Imperial Seat-

The quotation from Horace in the Dedication. O thou, whose birth illustrious springs, From fair Britannia's ancient kings, 17 7 ma I at Hail STANHOPE, to whose guardian name I owe my being and my fame. We list adv.

- 16 Again thall favoue. I And, 'ere the rifing Sun displays his light, I call for tablets, papers, pens; and write.
- 2 Riches to all, and ev'ry one she promises;
 But in her mind she otherwise intends.
- 3 Who is this hero, this our godlike guest?
- The phantom bore His head aloft, a plumy creft he wore: This hand appear'd a shining sword to wield, And that fultain'd an imitated fhield : He spoke with empty words, in vaunting strain And like the chief, came tow'ring o'er the plain.
- 5 If there be any use in confessing faults, I acknowledge myself guilty.
- 6 The direful fource of all his future woes.
- -Still following in a ring The months fresh labours to the peasants bring-

8. There

- 8 There is nothing fillier, than an ill-tim'd laugh.
- 9 Now all the foldiers to their posts are flown; And in their turns, successive guard the town.
- 10 Canst thou, in reason, hope, a bawd so known, Should teach her other manners than her own?
- II But what from Nature's commoners you buy,
 Through the thin robe stands naked to the eye.
- 12 The very fountain of sweets is sometimes productive of bitterness.

The quotation from Fontaine.

The temple of HYMEN was assigned her for a habitation.

- 13 He hath feen the manners of many men.
- 14 What place on earth with charming Baiæ vies?
- 15 I am prepared to answer.

The Quotation.

Who shall guard the guards themselves?

- And fell Barbarians wanton with fuccess!

 Scatter our city's flaming ruins wide,

 Or through her streets in vengeful triumph ride,

 And her great founder's hallow'd ashes spurn,

 That sleep uninjur'd in their sacred urn.
- 17 All love not lowly fhrubs and rural plains.
- 18 Look round the habitable world, how few Know their own good; or knowing it pursue.
- 10 How rashly do we oppress ourselves by laws!
- 20 Turns his last thoughts on Argos as he dies.
- As from a leprofy or jaundice flies;
 Religious madness in its zealous strain,
 Nor the wild frenzy of a moon-struck brain,
 Are half so dreadful.
- 23 Ev'ry desperate blockhead dares to write.

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24 War is the most eligible.

- 26 ——A new fervant offers,
 Promiting things wonderful and great.
- 27 We feek what we should shun, you make with op
- 29 Who talks true Greatness?

O thou, Queen of Verse.

- Your name, oh! nymph, or oh! fair goddes, say?
 A goddes, sure, or sister of the Day,
 You draw your breath from some immortal line,
 Your looks are heav'nly, and your voice divine:
 O! ease our toils, whoe'er thou art.
- 31 We two [letters] are all for this day.
- 32 But whence are you, what country claims your birth?
 And what have you to feek on Gallic earth?
- 35 Sonorous trifles.
- OICK, would you know, if I should change my life, What kind of girl I'd chule to make my wife? I would not have her be so fond to say Yes, at first dash; nor dwell too long on nay:

 These two extremes I hate; then let her be 'Twixt both; nor too hard hearted, nor too free.

Another Version.

You afk, dear WILL, what we disdain,
What girls our fancy please:

We like not those give too much pain,

Nor those we win with ease:

For those our passions starve, and these will cloy: The middle only gives the greatest joy.

- 37 The dying Swan fings his own funeral elegy.
- 38 What will the masters do, when thus the servants
- 39 Ye subterraneous Gods? whose awful sway, The gliding ghosts and filent shades obey;

O Chane

O Chaos hor! and Phlegethon profound!
Whose solemn empire stretches wide around;
Give me, ye great tremendous pow'rs, to tell
Of scenes and wonders in the depths of hell.

- 40 Mix a short folly with thy labour'd strain; 'Tis joyous folly that unbends the mind.
- 41 My friends, attend while I a dream relate, Deliver'd by a divine vision.
- 42 Discipline and water-gruel, a whip and a dark room.
- 43 Magistracy, like a sword, is given to some, wherewith to kill the commonwealth.
- 44 She fed within her breast a flame unseen.
- 45 In what efteem's the art of punning held?
- 46 Cease with your words my tender breast to move, Nor injure her whom you profess to love.
- 47 As in a mirror.
- Of the great Cynic, in that narrow space;
 His own condition thus he did lament:
 How much more happy thou, that art content
 To live within this little hole, than I
 Who after Empire, that vain quarry fly.

The Quotation.

Dare to be poor: accept our homely food

Which feafts a King; and emulate a God.

- 49 He that would stand in brafs as fixt as fate, Be nam'd the father of the state, Let him restrain this brutal rage.
- 50 Happy in their error.
- 52 Light minds are taken with little things.
- 54 Through many shapes we often find one that will hit ourselves.
- 55 A noify tongue and babbling breath
 Shall teize and talk my child to death.

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But if he would avert his fate, When he arrives at man's estate, Let him avoid, as he would hanging, Your folks long-winded in haranguing.

Dr. DUNKIN.

Quotation from Horace.

The Clown stands waiting by the river side.

For that to pass, which will for ever glide.

For vile applause, to mount a country stage,
Who at a royal theatre could gain renown,
And, without mummery, bear away the crown.

The quotation from Virgil.

See where the Patriot shines, whose prudent care
Preserves his country by protracted war.

- 59 The Creatures will endeavour to ape their betters.
- The Tigress swells with angry pride, And calls forth all her spots on ev'ry side.
- 61 One story is good till another is told.
- 62 Thick shines, with tender troops, the pompous plain-
- 63 We are a nation of Players.
- 64 To crimes they owe their Gardens.
- 65 But stranger virtues yet in streams we find, Some change not only bodies, but the mind.
- 66 Acquaintance grew, th' acquaintance they improve To friendship, friendship ripen'd into love.
- 67 Endure and conquer, live for better fate.



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Bac if he would avert his face,
When he a fivel at man's other.
Lut sin Avail, as he wan that inching,
Yearholk, he wanted millaring.

D. Donkin.

Ogeration from Manager I the Course flower and by the Part fide For that to pass, which will for some glace.

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CENTINEL.

No. 1. Thursday, January 6th, 1757.

Prius orto national and prius orto

Sole VIGIL calamum & chartas et scrinia posco.

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HILE those who stand at the helm of affairs in the commonwealth, are employed in taking necessary precautions to frustrate the designs formed by the external foes of the nation; the CENTINEL, like a true patriot, voluntarily undertakes to prevent any surprize from

our domestic, and perhaps more dangerous enemies. The care of alarming the coast in case of a French invasion, he leaves to more mechanical Centries, whose sphere of vigilance never extends beyond twenty yards of the posts at which they are stationed; who are taught to challenge passengers, like the magpye in Porridge-alley,*

B without

• An alley in London, where a remarkable magpye, belonging to an eating-house, generally hangs at the door,

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without knowing the meaning of the words they pronounce, and when impelled in a particular manner, firike by clock-work like the favages at St. Dunstan's church.* His perception is more refined and fentimental, his organs are more independent. He proposes to watch the progress of the human mind; to keep the passions within the bounds of temperance, fo as to prevent their intoxication or irregularity; or should his authority prove ineffectual, at least, to give timely warning at the ap-

proach-of vice, folly, and impertinence.

THE public (it is hoped) will not wrong the dignity and importance of this office, by comparing the CEN-TINEL with those machines in red, that stand like lacquered statues, at certain distances around St. James's park; nor with the less ferocious watchmen, who are hired to fleep nightly in the streets; his rank is more eminent, and his office of much greater confequence to mankind: even as it is more honourable to guard the human heart, than to protect the ducks upon the canal; and of more momentous concern to preferve univerfal tranquility of mind, than to keep the king's peace.

How the centinels of these days have fallen off in point of reputation, we shall not at prefent enquire. Among the Greeks, a centinel, a keeper, and a guardian were synonimous terms: the Romans always chose the most brave, trusty and intelligent soldiers for their vigiles and speculatores; and, indeed, if we consider that the fafety of the whole army depended in an especial manner upon their care, fidelity and vigilance, we cannot wonder at the prudence of those sensible nations. The case is fo much altered in these days, that the people cry aloud with the fheep in the fable, " who shall defend us " from such guardians? We keep them in pay, and they " keep us in terror." Our CENTINEL differs from those gentlemen to o calo, both in office, talent and inclination: his aims (as we have already observed) are wholly beneficent; instead of threatening, he will soothe;

Two images of Savages, placed in a nich in the front of St. Dunstan's-church, Fleet-street, London: they strike upon two bells the quarters between every hour.

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nstead of fleecing, he will entertain his fellow subjects. He does not even claim the priviledge which Horace grants to an epic poet, that of nodding sometimes; a centinel forfeits his character, if he presumes to nod. His eyes and ears shall always be open to every interesting occurrence in the world of tafte, p'easure and humanity; and these organs he possesses in great persection. His vision extends to an hundred miles all around this metropolis. He can spy every party at Bath, and judge of every bett at Newmarket. Such is the peculiar conformation of his pupil, that he perceives objects at midnight as well as at noon. He can with great fafety to his person, contemplate all the riots in Covent garden; discern each elopement, and be an eye witness of every assignation whether sub dio, or sub teefo, in park or bignio, in hamlet or hackney coach. Nor is he lefs admirable in his faculty of hearing. He can stand at Charing-cross, and be sensible of a whisper in Grosvenorsquare; he can even at that distance, distinguish an Hibernian enamorato faying foft things to my lady, from a Swiss valet making love to her maid. He knows the cadence of scandal from the twang of political disputation; the creaking of a man's flipper, from the rulling of a woman's petticoat; he can detect the falfeness of a die, from the ratling of the box; and by the emphasis of an oath, discover the quality of the swearer, whether pronounced by a chairman or a colonel, a carman or a fenator, a peer or a gambler, distinct or united in the same person. Such a nice distinguisher of sounds, cannot but be a connoisseur in music, the professors of which he will take under his protection, from the celebrated Mingotti, who warbles Italian strains, in the king's theatre, to Irish Moll, who nightly howls Ellen-a-room in the streets for the entertainment of her countrymen. He claims the same pre-eminence in the allied senses of imell and tafte. By the fagacity of his nofe, he is qualified to fcent out those subjects of flavour, which will yield the most favoury entertainment to the public; and to avoid all fuch as are stale or poisonous, as well as those that emit the least odour of mortality. With respect to his gustatory talent, he pretends to analize the B 2 to vilegar bota apport you most

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most compound sauces, with the tip of his tongue; nay, even to chew and swallow the most noxious ingredients without any danger to his palate or constitution; therein rivaling the samous Powel the fire-eater, who challenges all the world to vie with him in supping a mess of soup compounded of burning brimstone and kindled charcoal.

Possessed of these extraordinary qualifications, the CENTINEL hopes he shall be found a dispenser of the most agreeable intelligence. Such intelligence as will amuse the sancy, meliorate the heart, and improve the understanding. Master as he is of the science of wit, he will take care to play it off to the best advantage, so as to dazzle and delight, yet not so keen as to injure the weak head of the gentle reader. It shall shine like the genial sun, not shall like the baneful lightning; and should a cloud of dullness ever intervene, the public may take it for granted, that a veil is purposely interposed for the benefit of such as might otherwise be blinded by

an unintermitting stream of meridian splendor.

Nevertheless, as he cannot employ his attention on different objects at the same time, he has enlisted a number of subordinate centries, and stationed them at different posts to give notice of every extraordinary incident. One frequents female routs and card-assemblies, where he fometimes meets with an old brother of the musterroll in embroidery: a fecond has found means to be admitted as one of the knights of Arthur's * round table. where fuch exploits are atchieved, and fuch inchantments prevail, as the old British worthy never performed, nor his friend Merlin ever devised. A third acts as protector of a noted brothel, having received particular orders to deal gently with fuch delicate Bucks as might fuffer in their healths and spirits by rough usage; and to record the noble deeds of those nocturnal heroes. A fourth disguised in a plain suit of cloaths full-trimmed, with a walking-fword and three-tailed perriwig, gravely harangues on taste and physic at Batson's: + a fifth mingles in offent set of imminerisons among their criticism

† A coffee-house, opposite the Royal Exchange, in Corn-hill, London; frequented mostly by physicians.

The celebrated gaming chocolate-house, formerly kept by one White, now by one Arthur, in St. James's street, London.

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criticism at the Bedford, I in the form of an attorney's clerk; and a fixth lectures on politics at the Smyrna, I in the dress and dialect of an antiquated Scotch tutor. The CENTINEL has likewise engaged in his service those tall gentlemen of the cloth, who at our theatres appear upon the flage in clean spatterdashes, nodding-caps, and burnished arms, seeming to support the wooden ornaments of the Professium, and adding a terrific grandeur to the drama. They are instructed to superintend the representation with a critical eye; to make a faithful report of the excellencies and demerits of each performer and when they perceive any actor wilfully deviate from nature. either by foaring to bombalt, or finking to grimace and buffoonery; their duty is to acquaint me immediately with the names of fuch delinquents, that effectual means may be made use of to recall them to that standard which they have so treacherously deserted.

In a word, the CENTINEL Steps forth the friend of human nature: the champion of religion and morality. in defence of which he will thed the last drop of his ink : the promoter of charity and universal benevolence; the dispenser of mirth and good humour; the patron of genius and learning. Actuated by these principles, he must of course declare himself the implacable foe of irreligion. fraud and violence. He will give no quarter to envy. malice and ingratitude: avarice he will treat with fcorn : punish deliness with neglect, and chastise folly with

ridicule.

pirt no end to all my mouse and except to In this laudable pursuit he hopes to meet with a confiderable number of auxiliaries who will relieve him upon his post occasionally, or at least furnish him with important hints of advice, from different parts of the kingdom. Any detached effay, whether humorous or moral; any fpirited criticism on books, mon or things; any poetical morfel, either ode, elegy, epigram or epistle, which may have exercised the genius of a young academician at the university, or dropped from the fancy of some gay student B 3 . selicust and to a

A coffee-house, in the Piazza, Covent-garden; one of the principal rendezvous of authors, critics, players, &c.

A polite coffee-house in Pall-mall, London,

in the temple, shall be welcome to a place in this paper such an agreeable respite to the ever wakeful GENTINEL, will be received with all due acknowledgement, if conveyed under cover to his publisher.



2. 10m july, Junuary 1310, 1751.

Παντας μεν ρίλπει, και ύπιχεται ανδρι έκαςω, Αγγελιας προιεισα, νοος δε δι αλλα μενοινα. ΗΟΜ.

To the CENTINEL.

SIR, S the nature of the office, which you have affumed, obliges you to warn mankind of every approaching danger, to detect fraud and treachery, and to take into your cultody every open or fecret violator of law and justice, I shall make no excuse to you for this early application, but proceed without farther preface to lay before you my present unhappy circumstances. The injuries, which I have lately received from an ungrateful female, will, I doubt not, demand your pity, and call for your indignation. I am, fir, in the last year of my apprenticeship to an eminent tradesman, and by my honesty and application to business was in a fair way of succeeding in the world; when an accident happened which has at once put an end to all my views and expectations, and left me the unhappy victim of disappointment and despair. You must know, fir, that about a twelvemonth fince, a young lady, who from some disgust had removed from the court end of the town, fixed in the city, and took lodgings in our neighbourhood; her extraordinary beauty and accomplishments, together with the report which had been spread of her great riches, drew about her, as you may imagine, a croud of admirers, amongst whom, being of an amorous constitution, I was soon listed; the sweetness of her smiles, and the affability of her behavour were indeed so enchanting that it was impossible to refift her; I fell an immediate facrifice to her charms, the possession of which I sought with all the eagernels

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arms, ernels and and folicitude of a true innamorato: my vows were received with distinguished marks of approbation, my vanity was foothed by compliance, and my ambition flattered by hope; the lady went in short fo far as to promise me her hand, with ten thousand pounds into the bargain. Thus happy in the hopes of spending my life in the bosom of plenty and prosperity, and elated with fo fair a prospect of success, I scrupled not to make her present after present, exhausted my own little coffers, and fometimes made free with my master's, borrowed, begged and stole fresh incense to offer up at the shrine of my beloved goddess, who, I doubted not, would soon repay me by herfelf and all that the poffeffed. Imagine then, Mr. Centinel, if it is possible to imagine, what was my lituation of mind, when on the fatal 23d of December, I received a note from her to inform me that I could not possibly be admitted to her presence any more, because she was particularly engaged, that as to any promises she might have made me, I was a fool to believe them, as the had never any intention to ferve me; thet she was obliged to me for my presents, part of which should be returned, and the rest kept for my fake, wished me happy in another wife, but was herself obliged in honour to give her hand to an exchange broker.

Thus ended my unfortunate amour. I have since heard (which is all my poor comfort) that I am but one amongst some thousands whom she has treated in this manner; that she is an arrant coquette, and has been long since branded for a jilt, a character in my opinion much worse than that of a common strumpet. I shall only add, that I expect by means of your paper, at least to have the money returned which I foolishly expended in repeated presents to her during my courtship, I shall otherwise most certainly expose her name and place of abode in all the public papers, which will afford some malignant satisfaction to the much injured, and abused

Though my unhappy correspondent is like other true lovers, so tender of his mistress's reputation as industriously to conceal her name and place of abode, my readers

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will not I apprehend, by this time, want my affifance to inform them, that the last place which this faithless damsel inhabited, and where Mr. Hopeless made his addresses to her, can be no other than Guild-hall,* and that her real name is FORTUNE: that identical lady, who from age to age has laughed at and deluded mankind; even that very coquette so exactly described by old Homer in the motto to this paper; that capricious and ungrateful goddess who hath been always employed in destroying the magnificent structures raised by her own votaries, and smiling, like her darling Alexander,

at the ruins which the has made.

To my friend Hopeless I shall only observe, that according to the Spanish proverb, Muchos van por lana, y buelven tresquilados, many go to seek for wool, and return shorn; and if a multiplicity of fellow-sufferers can afford consolation to the afflicted, he hath no reason to be unhappy. How many are there in this great metro. polis, whole imaginary chariots rolled on the lotterywheels, now reduced perhaps, to a foundered gelding, or the miserable solace of a one-horse chair! How many are perhaps at this hour lamenting the absence of objects which they never faw, and the loss of fortunes which they never possessed! I cannot indeed without concern, behold the avenues to the temple of riches at this difaftrous crifis, thus over-run with the thorns and briars of disquietude and disappointment: nor can I restect without regret, that so plain and direct a road to happiness as a state lottery, should not at the same time be a Life and easy one. It is, to say the truth, to the last degree provoking and unreasonable, that among all those bold adventurers who had the courage to hazard their fortunes for the good of their country, so very few should meet with their deserved reward. What a variety of disconsolate semales might I enumerate, who with lady Townly, had dreamed of winning thousands, and are now waked without a shilling! How many promises have been made by the generous and humane, which now can never be performed; how many pious resolutions have been taken which can never be fulfilled! I am myfelf

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myself acquainted with an old gentleman not worth much above sour thousand pounds a year, who if fortune had savoured him with either of the two great prizes, would infallibly have made his neice happy in a new top-knot; and am credibly informed, that a certain dignified clergyman had graciously purposed to have raised one of his curate's salaries to twenty-five pounds per annum, had not a note from Wilson and Co.* with the unexpected news of a blank, at once put a stop to these his charitable intentions.

I could include myself in many more deep and useful resections on this melancholy subject, but that the small limits of this paper oblige me to conclude it with an excellent sable from the celebrated La Motte, which, with a little variation from the original, is as sollows.

" Jupiter (fays he) about three thousand years " ago, being one day in a good humour, fignified to " his trusty Mercury, his gracious intention to gratify " the avarice of mankind by a lottery. The price of " each ticket was to be a facrifice: and that, like the " public-spirited Mr. Henriquez, + it might take in ad-" venturers of every rank, nation and degree, altars, " by way of lottery-offices, were erected throughout " the world, where every thing was accepted; bulls, cogoats, sheep, pigeons, even cakes and honey-combs were not refused : every creature was to have a chance, " and what was still more inviting, every one was fure " of a prize. The great benefits indeed, fuch as wit, beauty, riches, power, pleasure, &c. were to be the " happy lot of a few; but the blanks themselves, if of fuch they might be called, were very defirable, and " contained hopes of various kinds. The great prize, " or ten thousand pounds was wisdom; the gods them-" selves were permitted, like modern brokers, to stand " the chance of tickets which they could not put off, " and became adventurers: the lottery was foon filled: " Destiny, whose blindness seemed to promise impart-" iality, was appointed to perform the blue-coat boy's

* Proprietors of a lottery office in London.

[†] A mad projector in London, who is conftantly voiding schemes to inrich the government, which generally prove abortive.

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office, and Mercury promoted to that of secretary, to write down the numbers as they came out of the wheel, with the chances annexed to them. The drawing came on: hopes like twenty pound prizes, shew about in abundance: now and then turned out a fortunate lover, a successful monarch, or, what was still more rare, a happy husband, or a good poet. At length wisdom the great prize came up, and to whom should it fall but to the goddess Minerva! No sooner was the rumour spread on earth that the lucky chance was in possession of the fortunate Pallas, than Jupiter, the grand projector, became the immediate object of universal satire, and was openly accused by

"all, of partiality to his favourite daughter.

"Jupiter, however (says the fabulist) soon thought

on a method to make up this breach between him

and mankind: in the room of wisdom, which was

to have been the property of one, he gave them

Folly, which he divided among them all; the con-

" sequence of which was (as he had foreseen) that every one was contented; and from that time to this day, the most foolish always looks with admiration on

" himself, as the wifest among the sons of men."



No. 3. Thursday, January 20th, 1757.

Quis newas hie nostris successit sedibus hospes? VIRG.

IT is humourously observed by my immediate predecessor and brother-centinel, the ingenious Mr. Fitz-Adam, that people, who do not write themselves, have a strange curiosity to see a live author. Now as this curiosity cannot so easily be gratised till we are credibly informed whether any private gentleman is an author or not, no pains are spared by the curious and inquisitive in the acquisition of so important and necessary a discovery: when a new paper therefore makes its appearance, the marplots of the age are upon the rack of doubt and uncertainty,

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uncertainty, till effectual means are found to point out the writer of it; a hue and cry is immediately raised in the literary world, and search-warrants issued out to apprehend the criminal. Happy is it for the poor author, if by a timely retreat to his garret, and the incorruptible secrecy of his publisher, he can elude the vigilance of his pursuers, and continue his honest labours in the service of this country, without the danger of being censured and exposed for it.

Of this extraordinary care and affiduity in the search after truth, I have within this fortnight past been myself a melancholy witness; having heard this alarming question, who is this CENTINEL? echoed from mouth to mouth in half the coffee-houses in town; asked, with the utmost eagerness and solicitude, and as frequently answered with an equal degree of considence and presumption.

On the first advertisement of it, my friends at the Smyrna, on the bare information of my title, were unanimously of opinion that it was a political engine to be played off by the new ministry, who they very rationally supposed were the patrons and directors of it. Mr. P. had indeed been heard by some of them to drop a hint of this nature in their last conversation with him; the name of CENTINEL could be given by none but colonel T; lord C. had promised them his assistance, and the celebrated doctor S. was intrusted with the conduct and management of it. But, alas! how weak are the determinations, and how fallible the judgments of man! what became (as Mr. Bayes fays) of their supposes, when to their great surprise and disappointment, my first paper put an end to their conjectures, and gave, not the lie circumstantial, but the lie direct to every one of their affertions?

Providence, says an excellent moral writer, would never have created us with passions that could not be gratisted: as some men therefore are formed with an insatiable thirst after knowledge, others are equally able and desirous to communicate it. Whoever has frequented the places of public resort in this great metropolis, cannot but call to mind a set of busy and indefatigable mortals daily to be met with, whom I would distinguish

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by the name of universalists, whose merit it is to know every thing and every body, and who are, at the same time so obliging as to tell every thing to every body else. If a new play is in rehearfal, the univerfalist is a bosom friend of the author, has revised and corrected his work. and knows much of the beauties, generally much more of the faults of the performance. If a Magazine or a Review comes out, he acquaints you with the names of all those who are concerned in it, and conveys to you in a whisper the particular hand that is visible in every The universalist dines every day with men of the first rank in learning, and belongs to a club of the most celebrated wits of the age; is never without a manuscript ode, or a tragedy in embryo, which he carries in his pocket for the inspection of his particulars; and is always giving you some obscure hints of a considerable work, which, he informs you, will foon make a burll in the world, and revive the decaying lustre of the belles lettres.

Such is the hard lot of mankind, that in wit as well as in trade, those who have neither stock nor credit of their own, must frequently be obliged to live upon those who have enough of both. The man of eminence in his profession therefore is always attended by a fet of particular acquaintance whom he never conversed with, and a number of intimate friends whom he never faw. Not to know him, as Milton fays, argues your felf unknown. While the Spectator was in fashion, you could not meet a Witling in the street who would not take care to inform you, that he had just returned from dinner with Steele: breakfasted that morning with Parnell and Gay, and was engaged to Button's with Addison at seven. This ingenious method of borrowing, or rather stealing half an hour's consequence and importance, so frequent in the last age, is like other arts much improved in our own. All those who have a name, are extremely well known to those who have none; and when a man is arrived at a certain rank in literature, if he does not chuse to fay any thing, it will be faid for him; and if he does not write any thing, it may be written for him. He will be visited every day by a thousand people, though he sees nobody;

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and whilst he imagines that scarce one in a million ever set eyes on him, will be minutely described, and exactly

pointed out by half the world.

At the time when the great doctor Middleton was the reigning topic of conversation, I had the good fortune to fall in company with a gentleman, who had, it feems, been his constant companion, his amicus omnium horarum for many years in the university: he communicated to us feveral curious and entertaining anecdotes concerning his friend, and concluded by observing, that the doctor was undoubtedly as handsome a man as any in England; and it was a thousand pities he was grown so corpulent as scarce ever to be able to stir out of his chamber. The doctor was both envied and pitied by the company, and luckily for his friend the relator, it was not till some weeks after that I had the opportunity, by a vilit to Cambridge, of feeing that celebrated writer; who to my great furprize, proved to be, perhaps, one of the leanest, and most certainly (with all due deference to his memory) one of the homelieft men I ever faw.

Such instances of the candour and veracity of true friendship, would doubtless incite a man of any ambition to make himself famous as soon as possible, that he might increase the small number of his friends, and enlarge the narrow circle of his acquaintance. From men of fuch extensive knowledge as the universalists, one cannot indeed hope, and from men of fuch flrict adherents to truth as the doctor's friend, one would not with to conceal any thing. Notwithstanding which manifest advantages, together with many others that might be enumerated, I am still obstinately resolved to continue as long as I can behind the curtain, and to brood over my growing fame with felf-complacency and inward fatisfaction. The time will infallibly come, when I shall behold rival authors contending for the name of CEN-TINEL, like the Grecian cities for the birth of Homer: when the proper period is arrived, I shall step forth, as Ulysses did among the suitors, and by discovering myself, filence all their pretenfions; seize my goddess Fame, like another Penelope, and bear her off in triumph.

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Pope long ago complained in tolerable good metre, that

Ev'ry coxcomb knew bim by his file.

It doth not therefore raise my wonder, much less my concern, to find this paper attributed by many to the author or authors of the WORLD. Of this report I shall (to use a favourite phrase among my brother authors) take care to avail my felf, till I fee a necessity to contradict it; and in the mean time to convince my readers that I am master of more notes than one; or, in other words, that I can put on the dress and appearance of more writers than Mr. Adam Fitz-Adam. I would not have them surprised, if my next paper should be a RAMBLER; my next on ADVENTURER; and my next a CONNOISSEUR. I shall at least by this means secure to myfelf three weeks applause from the admirers of these my cotemporaries, by introducing them to their old acquaintance: and if the CENTINEL can afford as much instruction and entertainment to the public as those deservedly approved writers, he can have no reason to fear that his labours will pals unobserved, or unrewarded.

⁺ The letter signed R. cannot be inserted in this paper.



No. 4. Thursday, January 27th, 1757.

Clypeumque jubasque

Divini assimulat capitis, dat inania verba,

Dut sine mente sonum, gressusque essingit euntis.

To impede virtue by misrepresentation, and blacken innocence by calumny, has been the clandestine employment of vice in every age and nation; and though the

[†] The letter signed * came to hand, and shall be inserted the first opportunity.

^{*} The Centinel is obliged to his correspondent S. G. and will take his letter and the subject of it into consideration as soon as possible.

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the hand of time hath endeavoured to denude the forgeries of fallhood, and the pen of fatire hath been drawn in the cause of truth and integrity; yet have their united forces proved insufficient to retard the celerity of scandal, or to stop the current of detraction. One would almost be inclined to imagine that there was an evil principle in our nature, exciting every man to confider his neighbour's wisdom as a reproach of his own folly, and his neighbour's exaltation as an obstacle to his own happiness, Hence arise the burnings of envy, the malice of comparison, and the bickerings of animosity; to this we must in a great measure attribute the supplantation of merit, the progress of folly, and the retrogression of wisdom and knowledge. The celebrity of one writer draws after it the abuse and aspersion of a thousand; and the beauty of one distinguished female, calls forth all the arrows of cenfure, and gives vent to all the poison of malevolence; the perspicacious eye of envy is continually looking through the wrong end of the perspective, to magnify every blemish, and diminish every perfection: no incitements are left to animate, langour or encourage virtue; to difentangle fophistry, or investigate truth; whilft the great and good are only rendered more miferable by their accomplishments, and incur a punishment, where they had deserved a reward.

Such were my last night's meditations on the hard lot of mankind, when fitting in my elbow chair, I indulged the dark fuggeltions of melancholy, and gave ear to the dictates of experience, lamenting evils which I could not remove, and probing wounds which I could not heal; when that fleep, which I had long in vain folicited, at length insensibly stole upon me, and conveyed me in a moment to those ideal regions, where imagination wanders without restraint, and reason resigns her sceptre into the hands of fancy: I found myfelf on a fudden transported to a fair and spacious plain, where I saw at a distance two armies, who seemed prepared for action, and on the point of engagement with each other; for a while I stood undetermined whether I should proceed to the field of battle, or retire to some place of fafety, when a celeffial form, with looks of sweetness and complacency, B 2

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complacency, approached towards me; brother Centinel. faid he, and smiled, I read your uncertainty, and know your doubts; behold in me the genius of infruction, I am come to calm thy fears, and to remove thy ignorance; know then, the place thou feelt before thee, is the spot appointed to determine the fate of mankind in this decifive day, between the rival powers of TRUTH and FALSHOOD, who have been long contending for the empire of the world; come with me to yonder eminence, whence thou mayest view the conflict unburt and undifcovered; follow me and be fafe. I obeyed with chearfulness the commands of my heavenly guide, who conducted me to the promised asylum, which hung immediately over the field of battle, whence I could with eafe perceive the disposition of the armies, and be an eyewitness of every motion.

The forces of TRUTH were commanded by those illustrious generals, Merit, Learning and Time, who were joined by two powerful female allies, Modesty and Beauty; those of Falshood were led on by Calumny, Ignorance and Malice: Envy and Detraction were employed as aid de camps, and were, as I afterwards found,

of infinite service in the engagement: and now

Both battles main with ruinous assault

And unextinguishable rage. The first attack which I beheld, was FALSHOOD's right wing under the conduct of Calumny, bearing down on the left wing of TRUTH, commanded by Merit, who by dint of courage and conduct, kept the field for some time, and seemed but to imbibe fresh spirit from the spears of the enemy that fell blunted to the ground, which Calumny observing, by the advice of Experience, changed her weapons, and ordered her troops to make use of poisoned arrows, which fell in such frequent and irrelistible showers, that they were forced to give way, and yield to superior force. Time, who was in the rear, advanced immediately to the assistance of Merit, and endeavoured to rally his distressed friends, but was too flow in his motions to counteract the vigilance and actiwity of his adversary.

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DICHMEL

I could not but observe upon this occasion, that the success of Falshood was in a great measure owing to the assistance of Ridicule, who from a subaltern in the service of Calumny, had lately raised himself by art and chicanery to a distinguished rank in the army: his troops also, like those of his general, made use of possoned arrows, which they state in the manner of the Parthians, so that they seemed to say from the enemy while they attacked him.

In the midst of the battle I remarked with a mixture of surprise and indignation, a warrior, who by the splendor of his dress and the gaiety of his appearance, seemed no inconsiderable personage; who several times, to my great associations deserted from TRUTH to Falshood, and again from Falshood to TRUTH; shifting sides almost every moment, and who yet was received by each with an equal degree of satisfaction: the name of this swiss-like hero I found on enquiry to be Wit. I soon learned that he had more of Thersites than of Ajax in his composition; and served rather to divert and entertain both armies, than to be of any real consequence or importance to either.

From this ridiculous object my attention was now call'd off to another part of the field, to mark the bold and successful attacks of Learning on Ignorance, whom he would have put to flight with the utmost facility, but that he listened to the dictates of Pride, and pushed his victory too far; the fatal confiquence of which was, that amoushes were laid for him by the enemy, which he fell into with precipitation, and could not escape from

without difficulty and danger.

Though the two amazons, Modesty and Beauty, most heartily engaged in the desence of their beloved monarch, I could not help observing that the former was greatly desicient in conduct, and the latter failed in point of courage; so that their forces were easily subdued by Impudence and Malice: their deseat had indeed gone migh to bring on a general overthrow, and determined the victory in savour of Falshood, had not Virtue arrived most seasonably to the relief of Truth with a considerable reinforcement. At his approach every cheek

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was flushed with confidence, and every eye sparkled with delight: Merit rallied his scattered troops, even Modelly grew bold under his auspices; Beauty smiled with fresh charms, and Learning took the field once more with reanimated vigour. Integrity, who had the first command under this new ally, had brought with him a quantity of shields, proof against the fears of Malice, and impenetrable by the arrows of Calumny; with these the army of TRUTH was foon equipped, and renewed the battle with fresh ardour and redoubled courage. FALSHOOD began now in her turn to despair; her forces retreated on eve y fide, and Victory was just on the point of declaring berfelf the patroness of TRUIH, when the half subdued combatant, by the advice of Cunning, whom the always confulted, took a dangerous and defperate resolution, which proved but too successful. She cloathed herself in the habit of TRUTH, assumed her air, gesture and discourse, and coming to the enemy's camp, infinuated herfelf into the hearts of the foldiery, and feduced the whole army over to her own territories; where it was fome time before the captives discovered the fraud, and found themselves the deluded victims of Treachery and Diffimulation. The cries made by the unhappy prifoners on a fudden awaked me, to lament once more the undeserved fate of TRUTH, thus doomed to fall a facrifice to the stratagems of FALSHOOD, who has the insolence to boast her perpetual triumphs over the united efforts of Learning, Merit and Virtue

SOME SECTION OF THE S

No. 5. Thursday, February 3d, 1757.

Confiteor, si quid prodest delicta fateri. OVID.

SUCH is my regard for the fair fex, that where their interest and happiness are concerned, I shall always look upon it as my duty to wave every other consideration. I shall therefore postpone the essay which I had prepared

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prepared for this day, to make room for the infertion of the following letter, which is written with such an air of truth and sincerity, as cannot fail to recommend it to every unprejudiced reader; it contains the simple and undisguised dictates of a feeling and generous heart, willing to make amends for past errors by an acknowledgment of them, to convey instruction by example, and whilst it laments the innocence and misfortunes of one, to prevent the guilt and misery of thousands.

To the CENTINEL.

61R.

If penitence can lay claim to pardon, and to confess our crimes is any kind of atonement for them, the following true narrative may plead in my behalf to an injured woman, reconcile me to myself, and restore that tranquility of mind which I have so lately forseited by my

tre de

own folly and indifcretion.

You must know, Mr. CENTINEL, that I am the fon of an honest tradesman, was by him brought up at a public school, and from thence fent to the university; soon after my arrival there, a gentleman came down with his family to enter his fon, who had been my schoolfellow, at one of the colleges; they fent for me, and defired I would shew them the university; a request which I readily complied with, as it gratified my vanity in being feen with his daughter, a young lady of great beauty and fortune, advantages which often supply the want of every other real good, but ferved in her only to adom the superior qualities of her mind, and fet off the charms of virtue. I frome to make their time as agreeable as possible, by that assiduity which never fails to please, and all those little services which are sure to conciliate affection; I waited on my fair vilitor, as you may imagine. with more than ordinary diligence, gratified her ouriofity by the fight of every thing that I thought worthy of her attention, and endeavoured by being uleful, to make myself agreeables I succeeded so well in short with the whole family, that when they left the place I received a pressing invitation from the father, to spend a week with them in London, accordingly I waited on them, and

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was received with great politeness; the morning we chiefly spent in diversions within doors, and in the evening went to the play: this gave me an opportunity of frequent interviews with the young lady, in which I could not help paying that tribute of praise to her accomplishments which I knew she deserved, and which I imagined she expected; I spoke the language of love, without feeling the power of it, and insensibly railed a passion in her breast, which was as yet a stranger to my own. Little did I indeed at that time imagine, that with an intention merely to amuse, I was laying snares to deceive, and that whilst I thought myself only playing the innocent part of a fine gentleman, I was undermining the peace of an amiable woman, and destroying the

future happiness of a whole innocent family it

When I took my leave, my friend told me they would not consent to part with me so soon, unless I would promife on the first leifure I had to return, with which proposal I readily acquiesced: as I had no great defire to change a scene of gaiety and pleasure for the gloom of a college, the reflection on it threw a melancholy on my features, which the lady attributed to a different cause: I fetched a deep figh at parting, and retired from her with a filent forrow, which I afterwards found had left a stronger impression on her heart, than all the fine things I had faid, and confirmed her in the opinion he had conceived of my inviolable attachment to her. I returned to the university, where my attention was foon called off to other views, and my thoughts fix'd on objects of a very different nature; nor should I perhaps from that hour have called to mind the now forgotten fair one, had not a letter which I received from her about three months afterwards, greatly surprised and diffurbed me; " the would not (the there informed me) have broken through the preferibed forms of her fex four that as the well knew my deligns were honourable, and nothing but my own diffidence had concealed them, the looked on herfelf as bound in honour to let me know that they would be acceptable to her ; that it would appear like affectation in her to suppose I had meant merely to flatter and amule her; and as SEVI " The

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this, the hoped I would foon come to a more clear explanation." In a polificript the added, "that her father was a man who had, what we call, feen the world, was determined to marry her at all events up to her rank, and chose rather to see her splendidly miserable, than obscurely happy; that unless I saved her she was ruined, and that a short time must determine her fate."

I need not tell you how I was confounded, to find myself involved in an intrigue, before I had so much as once thought seriously upon it; I therefore answered her in the most submissive manner I could, represented to her that it would be the highest ingratitude in me to marry the daughter of a man who had shewn me such uncommon civilities, without his consent; besides that the disparity of our fortunes must be an unsurmountable obstacle to a thinking person, that she might one day or other reproach me with breach of trust herself, or insult me on account of that very inequality which she now feemed to difregard, that in fuch a case the defire of pleasing must fink into the fear of offending, and thus put an end to all her visionary schemes of lasting happiness: that I was forry the had so much mistook my behaviour, as to attribute that to love which was but the effect of gallantry: I then talked to her of a priest and marriage in the language of Lothario, and concluded by advising her for both our sakes to think no more of it.

This you may imagine was an answer, which, whilst my hand wrote it my heart very severely reprotehed me for: I could not but tacitly blame myself for that particular regard and attachment to her, which I had formerly express'd, and was not determined whether I should not make a little serious love to her the very next opportunity; when in the midst of these reslections I received the following letter, which best can tell the story of her missortune, and expose the weakness of my

past conduct.

"Tis over, and I am a flave! yet the only hour that
"I can call my own, I give to you; the only one that
husband's authority has not a right to interrupt: to

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" fum up all my miseries in a word, know, my father has this morning given me up to forrow and Mr. ---. " Alas! what defusive visions of felicity did not your " flattering tongue once give me leave to form! fuch as " no turn of fortune can again recal-I tremble to think what a husband's rage may not inflict, when he finds, instead of the happiness he expected, so poor an entertainment as love compelled will afford him; it is im-" possible for two different masters to share one poor heart: with me he might enjoy as much the unwilling " victim to brutal violence, and have as warm a return of fondness from the sheeted dead. But what am I " faying, and to whom? to him who has robbed me of " my peace! Can he now dry up those tears which him-" felf alone could bid to flow? or can he heal those . wounds which himself has made? But the worst is of past; all the passions that have racked me fince I re-" ceived your last are hush'd, and what little spirit " remains will foon give way to the filent-eating forrow " that must follow this. Think, that you have robbed me of, what not all my fortune can purchase for me, " nor the whole world beside hath power to bestow. " Ever fince I was taught to form a wish, it was that of being a happy mother and a tender wife: I may " now have a child whom his father's vices will exclude " from that excess of fondness which I should otherwise " have poured over it; and you know too well his character to hope any alteration in him; and yet this " man, my religion henceforward bids me to be true to, " and obey. Farewel! and know, however I condemp " your conduct, that would my brother, jealous of his honour as he is, this moment revenge me, I had rather forgive than resent it : live then, and be happy; " and may that happiness never be suspended a moment " by the remembrance of her whom your fallhood has " made for ever miserable."

If your heart has not already informed you what I felt on this, it will be needless to tell you how severely I now accuse my own weak conduct; nor can I soon forgive myfelf the wanton facrifice of youth, innocence, beauty and virtue, to fashionable levity, and polite

perfidiousness.

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erfidiousness. Tis I that have given the wound inflicted by her father a deeper smart, though it is himself who has made that misery lasting; but it would be a useful lesson; Mr. Centinel, if laid down by such a pen as yours. to warn all young gentlemen, my fellow proffigates. never to express a particular regard where they have not ferious thoughts of love; and to teach parents whom heaven has bleft with duriful children, rather to make them happy than great, nor violate those hearts which they have only a right to guide.

I am, lie,

Yours, &c. S. G.

My correspondent's letter needs neither comment nor illustration; as every man who reads it must be convinced. that, to raife hopes on purpose to depress them, and build up considence with a design to betray it, is a mark not of the frailty, as it is too often called, but of the baseness and depravity of human nature. Custom is indeed too apt to change appearances, and make us confider that as trivial which is in itself unpardonable: but furely to destroy peace and tranquility, and by the vilest arts put an end to innocence and virtue, in the eye of justice, must be murther; and whilst he who refuses to discharge a promissary note for a few guineas, is condemned as a thief and a robber, I fee no reason why the man who gives a bond for happiness to a virtuous woman and afterwards denies the contract, should not be thought worthy of equal punishment, and become the object of equal deteftation.

LOTOMERONO TO

No. 6. Thursday, February 10th, 1757,

- μυρι' Αχαιοις αλγε' εθηκε. Hom.

To the CENTINEL.

S you have invited all the observing part of your countrymen into your service by way of auxiliaries. I shall, without farther apology, lay before you such intelligence

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intelligence as hath been put in my power by a post of

great vigilance and attention.

You must know I am one of that species of CENTI-NELS, whom our nation has honoured with the name of TUTORS: persons commissioned by indulgent parents to superintend the conduct of their sons, during their refidence at the university, and travels in foreign parts. A flender fortune, which was exhausted by the time I had taken my batchelor of art's degree, rendered it neceffary for me to engage in this capacity; and the interest of a relation in London foon procured me admission into a family of confiderable rank. The necessary preliminaries being fettled, I was introduced to young CLODIO. who was just arrived from a famous boarding-school, in order to proceed to Oxford, for the benefit of academical improvement. I could eafily perceive at the first interview, that I was no very welcome acquaintance to my young spark, whose imagination had probably annexed the feverity of a schoolmaster to the character of every other instructor. But his countenance brightened up furprifingly, when, a few days afterwards, her ladythip in master's hearing told me, she would have CLODY mind his book, but was in some pain about his eyes. which like his father's were naturally weak. She had observed, she said, from a visit paid the samily by a fellow of college, that your men of learning are aukward, disagreeable creatures, and totally unfit for polite company. She would therefore recommend it to her child to take all the diversions he could; by which means he might possibly escape the rust which is so apt to be contracted within those learned seminaries. As I had, during my own stay at the univerfity, feen a ready proficiency in most young gentlemen with respect to the practice here pointed out, I could not for my life discern the necessity of this advice; but I contented myself with affuring her ladyship, that I should study every thing that might be for her fon's advantage.

It was not long before I had reason to be convinced how little occasion there was for apprehending that any prejudice might befal my PUPIL's visual faculty by intense reading; for, what with pretences of illness, and what

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bat ith with letters to mamma, intreating her permission to come and see his country cousins every time they made an excursion to town, he had been adroit enough to escape the confinement of schools at least two thirds of the year; by which means, he was so far from baving contracted a relish for study, that he was almost an en-

tire ftranger to the first rudiments of learning.

He was now arrived at an age when it is fashionable for young gentlemen to spend a couple of years or so at college, and to college we went. You may be fure I took an early opportunity to recommend a close apolication to literature, and to represent to him how much his future character would depend upon his present behaviour. But, by the force of a penetrating genius, he foon discovered my notions to be absolutely ridiculous. and the result of a grovelling, contracted spirit. He faw that, if he immured himself among quartos and folios, he should get the reputation of a PLODDING ANIMAL, grow as multy as a very FELLOW, and draw upon himself the contempt of all the CHOICE SPIRIIS of the place. A full fwing was therefore given to the gaiety of his heart. Instead of appropriating any part of the day to the purposes of knowledge, he filled up his time with the important buliness of billiards, hunting matches, cards and drinking bouts. He would dispatch a tour to London or Bath, and back again in twenty-four hours, and piqued himself upon planning and executing more amazing SCHEMES, than had entered into the head of any fludent upon record. I ve ted

But, as some malicious planet is always at work to interrupt human felicity, CLODIO was arrested in the career of his glory by an unlucky distemper, contracted in the course of his peregrinations. Before I knew of this disaster, I had by letter given a gentle intimation to his father of the dangers my pupil was likely to be involved in by his extravagancies. Upon which the old gentleman took an opportunity to slip privately to Oxford, and unfortunately for CLODIO, entered his room at a time when he was sitting mussed up in his morning gown and night-cap, and surrounded with a vast number of phials and gallipots. This unexpected encounter

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was the means of introducing a change in our fystem. It was resolved that, for the suture, we should not reside at college any part of the year, but what was barely necessary to keep the term. The rest of our time was devoted to be spent in London, under the old gentle-

man's immediate inspection.

From this time I shall pass over our academical adventures, as being little more than repetitions of what I have mentioned; with this difference, that as our time was shorter, our schemes were carried on with greater vigour and alacrity. In London, whatever difference there might be in point of climate, I found none in CLODIO's disposition. Upon our first arrival there he was initiated into the honourable order of Bucks and BLOODS, of which societies he approved himself an unexceptionable member. These heroes introduced him into innumerable frolics; in the course of which many a harmless watchman, and many a peaceable constable have felt the prowefs of my pupil's arm. Now and then indeed, all his gallantry could not defend him from a visit to the round house or compter: but, as the keepers of those distressful mansions are not persons of the most inflexible tempers, a fum of money, which I had always the honour of negotiating, never failed to release the captive to his entire fatisfaction.

It would tire your patience, Mr. CENTINEI, if I should recount all the riots he has occasioned, the drawers he has beat, the maid servants he has debauched, and the mistresses he has kept. Suffice it to tell you, that by the time his friends thought him old enough to go abroad, he was with great eclat equipped by his taylor (for little of my furniture had he admitted) for the

tour of Europe.

As Clodio, by never troubling his head with any language but his own, was unprovided with the proper key of travelling, I was in hopes his very ignorance would have kept him within some bounds, and suffer me at least to reap the advantage of careful observation. But a soul that is born for great enterprizes surmounts every obstacle. If he was not capable of conversing upon an equal footing with the Bucks of France and Italy, he made up for it by

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an iviolable attachment to those of his own country whom he found in those parts upon the same expedition as himlelf. We had not been a month beyond seas before a ghostly father to a certain nunnery surprized him in the apartment of a fair inhabitant of that facred retreat-CLODIO sfarted up, cock'd a loaded pistol he had luckily carried along with him, and fwore that whoever offered to interrupt his passage should be dispatched to the other world in the faying of a pater-noster. The good eclesiastic, Rartled at this ferocious appearance, was obliged to stand aside, and my pupil arrived Life at his lodgings. As no time was loft, I changed clothes with him immediately, fet him upon his horse, and bid him make the best of his way out of his most christian majesty's dominions. Weil it was that I took this precaution; for in less than a quarter of an hour the house was beset, and I was taken into custody as the intriguing delinquent, but obtained my liberty, by appearing upon examination, to be innocent of the charge.

Thus we bid adieu to France; but as if fortune had directed her whole artillery against us, we were plunged into new difficulties in every region we entered. Before we had traversed Italy, my pupil was five times in the hands of justice for disturbances at plays, masquerades, or ridottos; and once we both very narrowly escaped the torture of the inquisition, by his being overheard to ridi-

cule the fackcloth and bare feet of a Capuchin.

You may imagine I grew uneasy under these repeated vexations. I hurried him over the rest of the grand tour as fast as possible, and he is at length arrived safe in London; having imported a vast quantity of foreign sopperies, neat and unmixed with any good qualities. Despairing of being able to effect a change in so excentric a genius, I now deliver him up into the hands of the GENTINEL, from whose authority I question not but he will meet with the most equitable animadversion.

The animadversions desired by my correspondent (if the short limits of this paper permitted me to make any) would fall not on the young gentleman, to whom I apprehend they would be entirely useless, but on the good

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lady his mother, to whose plenary indulgence he seems so deeply indebted. At present I have only room to observe, that nothing can be more ridiculous than the office of my brother Centinel, who was hired to be a witness of passions, which he had not the power to control; conduct, which he had not the authority to alter; and follies, which he could not prevent: to which I shall beg leave to add, that parents have no right to complain of the bitterness of the waters, when they themselves have possoned the fountain.



No. 7. Thursday, February 17th, 1757.

Redit labor actus in orbem, Aig; in se sua per vestigia volvitur. VIRG.

If Virgil had lived in this age, he could not have more exactly described the present sashionable round of solly, than in the words which I have presixed as a motto to this paper: it is indeed a labyrinth of mutual error, and a maze of ridiculous perplexity, where we run after one another till we are satigued and disappointed, and then are absurdly angry and displeased that we cannot find a clue to extricate ourselves from it; we hurry over the task of existence like school-boys, with the utmost expedition, and seem to make it the business of our days to get rid of them as fast as we can. The seast of nature palls upon our appetite for want of variety, and with all the dainties that she can assord us, we grow sick of the entertainment before it is finished, and rise from it rather tired than satisfied.

Were I inclined to philosophize before modern fine gentlemen and ladies, I would consider life as but a larger RANELAGH, where, as soon as we enter, we are struck with admiration at the beauty and magnificence of the structure: the novelty and gaiety of every thing about us gives us a kind of tumultuous pleasure, which is doubled by ignorance, and heightened by participation:

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noise and bustle amuse and divert us for a little time; but after we have taken a few rounds, viewed the same objects perpetually offering themselves to our sight, and listening to the same sounds constantly vibrating on our ear, the whole edifice seems gradually and insensibly to lose its charms; we begin to wish ourselves at home again, and so drop off one after another without ceremony. At parting indeed, we are apt to shew some little uneasiness, and are most of us very loth to quit the place, though heartily satigued and sick of every thing in it.

If this be in reality a proper image and representation of our condition; if the little round of human pleasures is so limited and confined, nothing can certainly be more absurd than for every man to endeavour still to contract the circle; to walk within the narrow path of one poor gratification, when there is room left for him to expatiate in a wider field of happiness, and a more extensive

range of pleasure.

Variety we know is the great end of human wishes, and the very essence of human selicity; every enjoyment nauseates by repetition, and cloys by satiety; even health, as the poet tells us, for want of change, is a disease. Hence it arises, that the persections, the possessions, the every thing, in short, of everybody else is always better than our own; and yet so coy is this universally adored goddess Variety, and so unpropitious to her votaries, that one half of them cannot find her, nor the other discover her to any useful or necessary purpose.

The fashionable part of the world is so confined in their idea of pleasure, that they very seldom enjoy any; and in a very short space of time grow weary of them-

felves, and every thing about them.

To fuch I would recommend the behaviour of my worthy friend NED FLUTTER, who, though no scholar, has, I believe, as much true philosophy as is to be found in the two universities. NED has hitherto so contrived, as never to be tired of any thing, and to insure happiness by the constant and diligent avoidance of satiety; for which purpose he never drinks the same liquor, goes to

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the same club, or keeps the same company two nights together. Ned eats and swears one day, salts and prays the next; keeps a pack of dogs that he may not be too fond of his horse, and a brace of mistresses that he may not grow sick of his wife. Two pipes of an evening had like to have made him tired of smoaking; he has now therefore taken to chew, and has lately ordered (which is no bad device) his favourite maxim ne QUID nimis, to be engraved on his tobacco box.

If the people of quality of this nation, would imitate my friend NED's example, they might, for aught I know, be as happy as himself: in the mean time, whilst they associate with none but themselves, I am not in the least surprised to find them tired of their company. And whilst they have no idea of a pleasure, but what is to be found in an opera or a playhouse, a court or an assembly, I shall not wonder to find them extremely miserable; nor greatly pity them when they

are fo.

As Good, however, doth sometimes spring from Evil, I am not certain whether the universal languor and discontent which arises from fruition, may not be attended with useful consequences: and whether the satiety so much complained of, may not one day make us wifer and better. Men may become virtuous only for the sake of variety, and sall in love with something useful, after they have been heartily tired of vice, solly and impertinence.

It might therefore, perhaps be no bad method to promote fasting, by luxury; and prevent the increase of

vice, by the full indulgence in it.

If I had a fon, from whose passion for play, I had reason to sear the worst consequences, instead of dissuading him from it, I would consign him over to the care of Mr. Arthur, with positive orders not to let him leave the gaming-table for the ensuing half year; at the expiration of which term, I should expect to find him without the least propensity to that vice; nor am I certain whether he would bear the sight of a pack of cards, or a pair of dice ever after.

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If I had any suspicion of his being infected with the present epidemical distemper called the Orangonana, or madness after the theatre, so rife amongst us; instead of reading lectures to him out of Collier's book against the stage, I would oblige him to freeze at Covent-garden, and sweat at Drury-lane alternately for fixty-sive nights, without intermission, after which time, I humbly apprehend he would not willingly part with three farthings, to either manager, to purchase the liberty of the house.

In the same manner, if he was a fot, I would confine him to the cellar: if he was a book worm, I would keep him for a twelvemonth in my library; and if he was an uxorious husband, I would lock him up for fix

months in his wife's bed-chamber.

Thus is it possible even by vice to promote the interests of virtue, and from the poison itself to extract a salutary

and efficacious antidote against it.

Homer tells us a remarkable story, not easily reconcilable to modern gallantry, of his hero Ulysses, who resused immortality and a goddess, for death and a wife; vetulam suam (says Tully) immortalitati. I shall close my paper with a solution of this ænigma, which has long puzzled, and which, for the sake of my reader's memory I have cloathed in Hudibrastics.

The WISDOM of ULYSSES.

SOME folks aver, it mighty odd is,
When, (as 'tis by the poet fung)
The wife was old, the mistress young;
To lye within Calypso's arms,
And revel in immortal charms;
Sure wifer heads than he, they say,
To such temptations might give way;
And had he been like other Men,
'Twould have gone hard with faithful PEN;
But he, good man, wou'd never roam,
So well he lov'd his dame at home.

How we poor fools of modern ages.
Missake the aims of antient sages?

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And with most charitable blindness,
Take all this cunning for mere kindness!
Cou'd we but think that, to be free
Is to be happy; cou'd we see
What we by sad experience prove,
How hard it is to always love;
How long the pain, how short the bliss is,
We shou'd not think it strange, Ulysses
Shou'd treat a goddess with disdain,
And eagerly run home again:

The subtle fox well knew his wife
Would only last him during life;
But if Calypso had enjoy'd him,
'Tis ten to one she wou'd have cloy'd him;
No death cou'd part, no fate cou'd sever,
That was for ever and for ever.
'Twas this that made the wise man choose
The proffer'd blessing to resuse;
This made him seek an easy life,
Content to bear that load, a wife,
Till gracious Heav'n shou'd set him free;
Preferring death and liberty,
To chains and immortality.

CALIFOREDICE IN

No. 8. Thursday, February 24th, 1757.

Risu inepto res ineptior nulla est.

MART.

THE unbounded freedom and licentiousness of RAILLERY and RIDICULE is become of late years so fashionable amongst us, and hath already been attended with such fatal and destructive consequences, as to give a reasonable alarm to all the friends of VIRTUE. Writers have rose up within this last century, who have endeavoured to blend and consound the colours of good and evil, to laugh us out of our religion, and undermine the very soundations of morality. The character of the Scoffer

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COFFER bath by an unaccountable favour and indulence met, not only with pardon, but approbation, and oth therefore been almost universally sought after, and dmired. RIDICULE hath been called (and this for no ther reason but because Lord SHAFTSBURY told us so) he TEST OF TRUTH, and, as fuch, has been applied ndiscriminately to every subject, for the most part vithout that examination which it always demands, nd that contempt and abhorrence which it fo highly deserves.

In opposition to all the puny followers of SHAFTS-SURY and BOLINGBROKE, all the laughing moralifts of the last age, and all the sneering satyrists of this, I hall not scruple to declare, that I look on RIDICULE as an oppressive and arbitrary tyrant, who like death throws down all distinction; blind to the charms of VIRTUE, and deaf to the complaints of TRUTH; a bloody Moloch who delights in human facrifice, who loves to feed on the flesh of the poor, and to drink the tears of the afflicted; who doubles the weight of poverty by fcorn and laughter, and throws the poilon of contempt into the cup of distress, to embitter the draught.

TRUTH, fays the SHAFTSBURIANS, cannot possibly be an object of RIDICULE, and therefore cannot suffer by it: to which the answer is extremely obvious; TRUTH naked and undifguifed, cannot, we will acknowledge with them, be ridiculed; but TRUTH, like every thing elfe, may be misrepresented: it is the business of RIDICULE therefore to disguise her; to dress her up in a strange and fantastic habit, and when this is artfully performed, it is no wonder that the croud should

imile at her deformity.

The noblest philosopher, and the best moralist in the heathen world, the great and immortal Socrates fell a facrifice to this pernicious talent: RIDICULE first milrepresented, and afterwards destroyed him: the deluded multitude condemned him, not for what he was, but for what he appeared to be, an enemy to the religion of his country. To salvest odd sensil so girses the

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The folly and depravity of mankind will always fur. nish out a sufficient fund for RIDICULE; and when we consider how vast and spacious a field the little scene of human life affords for malice and ill-nature, we shall not so much wonder to see the lover of RIDICULE rejoicing in it. Here he has always an opportunity of gratifying his pride, and satiating his malevolence: from the frailties and absurdities of others, he forms a wreath to adorn his own brow; gathers together with all his art, the failings and impersections of others, and offers them up a facrifice to self-love. The lowest and most abandoned of mankind can ridicule the most exalted beings; those who never could boast of their own perfection,

Nor raife their thoughts beyond the earth they tread, Even these can censure, those can dare deride A BACON'S av'rice, or a TULLY'S pride.

It were well indeed for mankind, if RIDICULE would confine itself to the frailties and imperfections of human nature, and not extend its baleful influence over the few good qualities and perfections of it: but there is not perhaps a virtue to be named, which may not by the medium through which it is feen, be distorted-into a The glass of RIDICULE reflects things not only dark, but falfely also; it always discolours the objects before it ventures to represent them to us. The purest metal by a mixture of base alloy, shall seem changed to the meanest. RIDICULE in the same manner will cloath prudence in the garb of avarice, call courage rashness, and brand good-nature with the name of prodigality: will laugh at the compassionate man for his weakness, the serious man for his preciseness, and the pious man for his hypocrify.

Modesty is one of Virtue's best supports; and it is observable, that wherever this amiable quality is most eminently conspicuous, RIDICULE is always ready to attack and overthrow it. The man of wit and humour is never so happy as when he can raise the blush of ingenuous merit, or stamp the marks of deformity and

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happy and contemptible

The lover of RIDICULE will no doubt plead in defence of it; that his design is to reclaim and reform mankind; that he is listed in the service of VIRTUE, and engaged in the cause of TRUIH: but I will venture to assure him, that the allies he boasts of, disclaim his friendship, and despise his assistance. TRUTH desires no such soldier to sight under his banner; VIRTUE wants no such advocate to plead for her. As it is generally exercised, it is too great a punishment for small faults, too light and inconsiderable for great ones: the little foibles and blemishes of a character deserve rather pity than contempt; the more attrocious crimes call for hatred and abhorrence. Thus we see, that in one case, the medicine operates too powerfully, and in the other is of no effect.

I might take this opportunity to add, that RIDICULE is not always contented with ravaging and deltroying the works of man, but boldly and impioully attacks those of God; enters even into the fanctuary, and profanes the temple of the most high. A late noble writer has made use of it to asperse the characters, and destroy the validity of the writers of both the old and new Teltament; and to change the folemn truths of Christianity, into matter of mirth and laughter. The books of Moles are called by him fables and tales, fit only for the amusement of children; and St. Paul is treated by him as an enthufiast, an ideot, and an avowed enemy to that religion which he professed. One would not furely imagine that there was any thing in Christianity so ludicrous as to move laughter, or excite contempt; but on the contrary, that the nature of its precepts, and its own intrinsic excellence would, at least, have secured it from fuch indignities.

Nothing gives us a higher opinion of those antient Heathens whom our modern bigots are so apt to despise, than that air of piety and devotion which runs through all their writings; and though the Pagan theology was

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full of absurdities and inconsistencies, which the more refined spirits among their poets and philosophers must doubtless have seen through and contemned: yet such was their respect and veneration for the established religion of their country, such their regard to decency and seriousness, such their modelty and diffidence in an affair of so much weight and importance, that we very seldon meet with jest or ridicule on subjects which they held thus sacred and respectable.

The privilege of publickly laughing at religion, and the profession of it, of making the laws of God, and the great concerns of eternity, the object of mirth and ridicule, was reserved for more enlightened ages; and denied the more pious Heathens to resect disgrace

and ignominy on the christian zra a torredde bas borto

It hath indeed been the fate of the best and purel religion in the world, to become the jest of fools, and not only, with it's divine founder, to be foourged and perfecuted, but with him to be mocked and fpit at trampled on and despised. But to consider the dreadful confequences of RIDICULE on this occasion, will better become the Divine than the Essavist, to him therefore I shall refer it, and conclude this paper by observing, that after all the undeferved encomiums fo lavishly beflowed on this child of wit and malice so universally approved and admired, I know of no fervice the pernigious talent of RIDICULE can be of, unless it be to raise the blush of MODESTY, and put VIRTUE out of countenance; to enhance the mileries of the wretched, and poison the feast of happiness; to insult man, and affront God; to make us in short hateful to our fellowcreatures, uneafy to ourselves, and highly displeasing to the Almighty if to brushin old tall the sound of he

to our introffic excellence would, at leaft, have fe-

Restlems whom our modern signs are in apt to despite, than that me of picts and describe which wins through

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CHOMEMET AND

No. 9. Thursday, March 3d, 1757.

Excubat, exercetque vices, quod cuique tuendum est.

A FTER having exhibited some specimens of my moral and intellectual faculties, in divers little essays on different subjects, which have been favourably received by the public, I shall now endeavour to entertain my readers with a variety of intelligence which I have either gathered from my own perception, or received from my subordinate centries, stationed in different parts

of this metropolis.

In the first place, I must give the corporation of Bath to understand that I have watched their waters, and, notwithstanding the late experiments of some ingenious chymilts, I do, from repeated observations aver, that they are feldom or never entirely free from brimstone. I likewise know, from undoubted authority, that the faid waters owe great part of their reputation to the energic endeavours of many honest gentlemen from Ireland, who refort to that place for their diversion, and out of mere charity take pains to mend the breed of the British nation. The art of gaming has been for some time past at a very low ebb in this retreat of the beau monde: what between the pressing act, the accidents of the road, and the vigilance of the civil magistrate, the confederacy is reduced to a miserable remnant. Standing upon an eminence in the neighbourhood of London, and extending my far-shooting vision towards the celebrated wells in Somersetshire, I could perceive no eminent artist in actual operation; some pillage was gleaned by a lank Teutonian, a decayed templar, and an half-witted apothecary; but, the reapers were not equal to the harvest. I beheld, not without particular pleasure, my old acquaintance Ajax fauntering upon the fouth parade,

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with all the marks of internal peace and fatisfaction; this venerable veteran was once a hero of the first rank in the world of adventure; and like his namesake in the Iliad, could throw with more force and dexterity, than any two modern pretenders; he seemed to enjoy the laurels he had gained, and far from weeping like Alexander, because he could not conquer another world, he appears contented with a comfortable share of this, which is already in his possession. I was particularly pleased to see with what reverence and respect he was treated by all the people of sentiment and fashion; he retires like an emeritus prosessor, and puts me in mind of Entellus in the Eneid, that old warrior of athletic memory, who in his old age, demolished the bully Dares, knocked down an ox, and assumed the motto,

" hic victor cestus ortemque repono."

I should have made further remarks upon this scene of gallantry and amusement, had not my attention been diverted by a whispering dialogue, which intruded itself on my hearing from the purlieus of Bond-street: turning my eyes to that quarter, I perceived the fprightly Cleanthe in close conference with the gay Lorenzo: it was now the dulk of the evening, they stood in the porch together, and by that part of the discourse which I overheard, it too plainly appeared that he had perfuaded her to abandon her family; she knew he was a libertine. captious, inconstant and loose in his morals; but she loved his person, over-rated her own beauty and discretion, and refolved to trust herself in his hands, on the strength of a vain promise which he had no intention to perform; but providence interposed in a hard shower: Lorenzo going in quest of an hackney coach, was apprehended by a constable for a riot on the preceeding night, and Cleanthe escaped impending ruin.

The following report has been made by one of my deputies, who attends all the card affemblies at the court

end of the town.

"February 14, half an hour past eleven. Present at a rout at lady RUSTLE's—Small company, not exceeding two hundred—Engaged at whist with her ladyship—Played deep—Obliged to have all my eyes about

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about me—Conversation turned upon a divorce, sued for by a certain gentleman against his wise—Lady Rustle very severe upon the vicious inclinations of such bold husses—I told her such discourse was the only unsassionable thing about her ladyship—Mr. Glimpse who sat opposite to her, seemed to approve of her remarks with extraordinary warmth—Mrs. Glimpse, my partner, smiled with a languishing eye upon colonel Strumbalo, who stood behind my chair—Perceived her ladyship at work under the table—Slipped my hand softly into her lap, and conveyed to my own pocket the nine of diamonds and the inclosed billet."

" Inchanting creature!

"A thousand years are elapsed since our last parting—Leave the cold arms of a dull, insipid, lifeless
husband, and fly to the embrace of your adorer,
STREPHON."

" A coach will be in waiting at the ufual time and place."

The knights of the round table have been for some time in close divan upon the fate of Admiral Byng. " Child Rowland to the dark tower came-he smelled " the blood of a British man." The betts run upon his falling backwards or forwards, to the right or to the left, upon receiving the stroke of justice. There is fomething truly mysterious and antique in the deliberations of these worthies. One of the most solemn rites in the religion of the Druids, was the human facrifice; when the facred blow was struck, those venerable flamens prognosticated good or evil from the convulsions of the victim, and the streaming of his blood. The knights of the round table feem to inherit the superstition of their fathers. There is even a strong affinity between their order and the Druidical institution. They too, consist of lawgivers and bards; they perform rites that are concealed from the vulgar: their betts are fo many pretences to prescience; they delight in human sacrifice, and cut down their oaks with a golden fickle.

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^{*} Admiral Byng was shot, Tuesday, March 15th, 1757.

My intelligencer at the Smyrna modestly represents, that his furtout is become threadbare, and follicits a change of apparel, together with an augmentation to his appointment, as he pays an extraordinary price for his coffee*. He fays the politicians have been very quiet in their lucubrations, and unanimous in their measures, fince the last dispute they were obliged to maintain with a furious interloper who appeared with a long sword and a black tye perriwig. That projector had formed a new fystem of his own, and was so choleric in his altercation, that they were afraid of cultivating his acquaintance. Finding them averfe to his notions, he foon abandoned the place, and attached himself to another society. Within these few, months, however, they have affected a wonderful alteration among the princes of Europe. His P--- majesty who was lately a tyrant, a Machiavel. a fool and a bully, without any folid foundation of conrage or power, is now univerfally acknowledged the greatest, the best, the most powerful and heroic prince in Christendom. The empress queen, who t'other day could eat him at a breakfast, he can now swallow at one mouthful; and the Rushans who were formerly honoured as bears, are at present despised as badgers.

My clerk at the Bedford, has taken notes of some judicious hints on theatrical pieces, thrown out by the hypercrities of the place. The petty juries of criticism, have brought in their verdict damned stuff, against all the productions of the season; and the committee of taste has reported, that except Mr. Patrick Macmahony and Tim Sillabub, all the writers of the present age, are

grubs and rafcals.

At Batson's, the debates have lately turned on a very curious case in physeology; two physicians being called to a consultation, differed in opinion, and after some acrimonious expressions, one made application to the other's nose. The passive doctor discovered no emotion at this assault, and thence the aggressor concluded that the nose was one of those parts in the human sabric, which had neither sensibility nor irritability. The question

^{*} Coffee, at the SMYRNA, is three-pence a dish; at most other coffee-houses in London it is but two-pence.

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question gave rise to a very warm dispute which had like to have introduced a sett of experiments that might have proved decisive. One of the disputants insisted upon its being a sensible organ, and to illustrate his affertion sneezed in the face of his antagonist, who said he did not value his argument a pinch of snuff. A third said he would not pretend to affirm that every doctor's nose was a sensible feature; but, he could smell a rat, and believed this affair would stink in the nostrils of the whole faculty. The debates were interrupted by a peace-officer, who gave the assailant to understand, that doctor Twattle had procured a warrant against him for an assualt and battery, and that he (the constable) had got scent of him in consequence of the plaintiff's directions.

The Centinels from the theatre in Covent-garden, have petitioned for a double allowance of geneva, on occount of the coldness of the weather and the thinness

of the audience.



No. 10. Thursday, March 10th, 1757.

Aut alios mores quam quos habet?

JUVEN.

To the CENTINEL.

SIR,

It has been remarked by one of your predecessors, that the prevalence of example is more particularly visible in the semale world; and that women are good or bad as they chance to fall among those who practise vice or virtue.

As I cannot but agree with him, I must inform you, I have been led for some private reasons, to consider the capacity of those women who undertake the education of our young ladies, and upon enquiry find them so extremely contemptible, not to call them by a worse name,

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that I have delayed trusting a child, where I have a father's right, to their care, till I had an opportunity of finding one, whose method is different, and whose ex-

ample better than any I have yet feen.

I confess it was matter of surprise to me, on a nearer inspection of their merits, to find, that instead of owing their station to superior judgment, or having been preferred to it for extraordinary talents and penetration, they chiefly attempted this way of life after having been disappointed in every other view; and that women debilitated in their persons, ruin'd in their fortunes from the little which they first enjoyed to less, excluded from all hopes of connubial selicity, and unacquainted with the world, should be appointed to form the growing mind to perfection, and guide those passions in the young, which they themselves could never feel, and which, without that experience when grown old, they can neither moderate nor understand.

Yet from such, sir, is it that we are to receive those who are to be our partners in life, and from hands like these expect the means of our future happiness; nor do I any longer wonder at the ill-pair'd couples which I every day see around me, when I consider the education of many of those young ladies under school-mistresses, governesses, &c. who are, for the most part, a compound of ignorance, hypocrify and affectation: but not to be hurried too far by an intemperate zeal, I submit my reasons for what I have afferted to your judgment, and shall be glad to find I have been deceived, and that it has been my lot only to have been conversant with the super-

ficial and bad part of this class of women.

The person who has to encounter with so many different tempers as a school exhibits, ought, doubtless, to be mistress of a most even one herself; to be above prejudice, to regulate her rewards and punishments by just degrees, nor by partial injunctions and unequal allotments forseit the esteem which she always should be solicitous to gain; and since it is so universally known that we never strive to imitate but where we first approve, she should be careful to avoid even the appearance of a weakness. How far this behaviour is in the power of

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one in the abovementioned circumstances, I shall not venture to pronounce; but imagine, she who has been Surprised by them into an involuntary state of celibacy, who has a temper fowered by miscarriages, and been too long used to enjoy an undisputed superiority, to think any one has a right to be pleased but herself; such a one, I should think, entirely unfit to bear with the little follies and improprieties of childhood, which it is sometimes necessary should be soothed into compliance. Can a temper like this either conciliate love or prompt imitation? And how unlike a thinking parent is it to trust a child to one of these? Peevilhness, the offspring of disappointed pride, makes them exert on every trivial fault their utmost rage, and it is no uncommon thing in these polite nurseries to fee helples innocence bathed in tears, and imploring that mercy which one would think it had a right to demand: what then are the effects of these ill-judged punishments? a broken spirit, and a heart at length rendered callous and insensible: one would imagine the fear of this would rouse in parents a resolution of being themselves the tutors of their children; for, however provoked, anger in the breast of a father or mother is but a short-liv'd tyrant; nature and the parent again take their turn, and teach the stream of fondness once more to flow undisturbed in its proper channel. This tenderness the mind of a governess is naturally unacquainted with; how much more fo then, when imbittered by age or solitude, and become fit company for none but those who will yield her a more than flavish obedience, give up the reins of power into her hand, and submit to the correction of its rod.

'Tis the vice of the coward to be cruel, and by what other principle, I would ask, are those actuated, who disarm injured innocence of its only power of redress, by the threats and assurances of certain detection, and

unexampled variety of punishment?

Such, Mr. CENTINEL, is the character of IMPERIA, in whom is united all that is abovementioned; a character, which the nearer I view it feems to open to more extensive evil, though recommended as one of the best of them: even age in her is dishonourable, whose grey hairs are made irreverend by her folly; who has ever despised

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despised her own sex, and been alike the contempt of ours; a man without masculine sense or courage, and woman without the virtues of softness or sidelity; who like the bat in the sable, is disclaimed at last as a rebe

by both parties.

Forgive, fir, the importunity of a father anxious for the welfare of his child (a fondness which you yourself are perhaps no stranger to) and as you have profest yourself an enemy to vice and folly wherever you find it, savour me with the publication of this, and some advice on the subject; join with me in exposing these semale tyrants, who not content with enslaving the body, would fetter too the free-born mind, and make it subservient to their own sordid purposes; and to me seem only different from the Scyron and Procrustes of old, in the narrow limits of their empire.

I am, SIR, Yours,

VIRGINIUS.

I must atknowledge that the complaint of my very serious correspondent, is but too well founded, and have often lamented with him the evils naturally arising from our present system of semale education: I can by no means however approve of his proposal, that the ladies should become tutors to their children, as I think the scheme utterly impracticable.

It is universally agreed, that the age we live in, is infinitely more industrious than any that ever went before it. We read indeed of a certain period when women of fashion had nothing else to do but to stay at home and instruct their daughters; to idle away their time in household affairs, and employ themselves in the dirty business of a family: but modern mothers have something else to do. Whilst routs, plays, assemblies, masquerades and ridottos, not to mention dress and intrigue, take up so considerable a portion of the twenty-sour hours, how is it possible a woman of any rank or character should have leisure sufficient to think about her brats in the country? She might indeed now and then, if a good housewise of

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r time, find a vacant half hour to read them a lecture two in Hoyle, give them a few profitable hints conrning paint or patches, or improve them in the imortant articles of dress and coquettry: but then all this absolute loss of time and hindrance of business; besides hat it cannot be done without a familiarity between nother and daughter, which never fail to end in mutual ontempt and aversion.

There is likewise another inconvenience in this domeic education, which VIRGINIUS doth not feem fuffiiently aware of, and concerning which I would advise im to confult his wife, and that is, the jealousies and nimolities which are so often observed to spring up on hese occasions. I know not how it is, but thirty is exremely apt to be jealous of fifteen; and though a woman may be a mother, we should remember (and if we will not, she will) that she is still a woman, and consequently as loth to part from admiration as her daughter can be willing to acquire it. Upon the whole I think, as matters stand at present, any school is much better for young ladies than their own home, and any example less pernicious than that of their parents.



No. 11. Thursday, March 17th, 1757.

> Tibi pene videre est. Ut nudam.

HOR.

MONGST the many laudable customs established by that eminent Grecian lawgiver, Lycurgus, there is not perhaps one which so visibly shews his regard for the fair fex as the manner of dress prescribed by him to the Spartan virgins, which confifted, as history informs us, of a loose and flowing garment, with several openings in various parts of it, so disposed as to discover at every motion, those charms which would otherwise have been cruelly buried in obscurity. The ladies of those times,

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we need not doubt, took took care to make their apertures in proper places, and to vary them according to the different beauties which they chose to reveal.

How far this wife institution might suit the freedom of Lacedæmon I shall not take upon me to determine; certain however it is, with all due deserence to antient Greece, that there is something in this custom rather too licentious for the purity of a British virgin: I am apt, notwithstanding, to suspect that there is a little Spantan blood in the veins of many of my fair countrywomen, having of late years observed this Laconic taste in dress, to become extremely prevalent amongst them. A genius for universal discovery is every day more and more visible in the semale world; arising probably from the well-grounded opinion that concealment is a mark of guilt and hypocrify, and an open display of every thing, the indubitable testimony of innocence and virtue.

Beauties in the days of our ancestors kept up their dignity and importance like Eastern monarchs, by withdrawing from the vulgar, and women, like other mylteries, the more they were hidden were the more revered: fo far from being like modern bells, " hackneyed in the eyes of men," they took care never to be feen by them: They had adopted a ridiculous notion, that the use of a petticoat was to cover the legs, and of an handkerchief to conceal the bosom; they even denied us the fight of " the human face divine," and wore a malk before all but their most intimate acquaintance. But time, whose peculiar property it is to reveal, has taught their granddaughters another leffon; and informed them, that to hide those charms, which nature has kindly beltowed, is to despise her bounty, and to reproach her beneficence: in opposition therefore to the miserly disposition of those who went before them, they now treat with the utmost generofity, keep as it were open house for the reception of every eye, and invite all to the feaft who have appetite to relish, or leisure to sit down to it. They have discovered with the wife legislator of Sparta, that the business of dress is not to cover but to expose, and as nothing can be admired which is not feen, it is 0. 11

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e interest of every woman, as far as in her lies, to

stend the prospect.

In pursuance of this public-spirited-plan of operations. oncerted by our female Machiavels, improvements in akedness spring up from time to time, which I doubt ot will in a few years, end in a complete standard of erfection. I cannot therefore, but heartily congratuate my fair readers on the late seasonable introduction f gawze handkerchiefs, at present so universally worm nd admired; a fashion so ingeniously contrived as to reserve the appearance of decency, and at the same ime effectually to prevent the ill consequences of so estructive a virtue. The enemies of a fine neck (if any uch there be) will I know, call it a fophistry in dress, jesuitical artifice, very easily feen through and detected; but the lovers of beauty, who are it is to be hoped much more numerous, will consider it as a favourable opening to an interview and acquaintance, which will be far from disagreeable to them. The philosopher will esteem it as a kind of window in the breast, which may convey to him the very thoughts of the little inhabitant within. So subtle indeed is this medium, that there is scarce any thing which may not be very easily perceived through it: I have myself frequently marked the ebb and flow of female passions, contemplated the rise and fall of inclination or difgust: and could distinguish the blush of shame, from the redd'ning of anger, or the glow of disappointment, through a piece of gawze, with as much eafe, as a virtuolo can fee the circulation of an infect's blood in a microscope.

I am credibly informed that this new fashion owes its rise to a beautiful mole on Amanda's left breast, which after having long, like his brother moles, lain hid, wrapt up in darkness and a double handkerchief, at length grew impatient of confinement, crept into light, and soon become the admiration of the beau-monde; since which it has been observed by the curious, that these pretty excrescencies have multiplied exceedingly: I would give my readers therefore, a piece of physical caution, to beware of counterfeits, for such are abroad.

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The fashion, I must confess, has, like every thing else, its enemies and opposers: honest WILL FOXCHASE declares he has no objection to a keen sportswoman, who kills her man with a pair of bright eyes, shoots him slying with an elegant shape and air, or runs him fairly down with wit and humour; but affirms that this new way of catching hearts in gawze nets is absolutely unlawful, and has even gone so far as to present it to the noblemen and gentlemen associated for the preservation of the game, who he doubts not will rank it under the denomination of poaching, and punish it accordingly.

An acquaintance of mine, who keeps a toy-shop in the city, has likewise shewn his dislike, by giving them the name of the new-fashion shew-glasses for the more commodious exhibition of semale trinkets; and was so rude as to ask a young milliner on the other side of his shop, whether if he purchased the gawze case, she was willing

to throw the inclosed goods into the bargain.

Tom. HAZARD, on the other hand, is of opinon, that gawze handkerchiefs were introduced rather to promote a defign on the purses than the hearts of mankind, which fatal tendency he had himself very lately experienced; for as he was but the other night recollecting a case in Hoyle that would have infallibly secured him the rubbers, he accidentally cast his eyes aside on a a neck almost as white as Mrs. C——'s which immediately turned his thoughts into quite another channel.

"That feat of delight he with wonder survey'd, "And forgot ev'ry word he design'd to have said."

My friend NED RUSTY, now a veteran on half-pay, used always to consider the modesty-piece (a part of semale dress now discarded like himself) as one of my brother Centinels, posted on the ladies bosom to warn them of any approaching danger; and dignissed hand-kerchiefs with the name of chevaux de frise, prudently planted by the fair sex to prevent the sudden incursions of an enemy. When he is acquainted with the present lowering of their breast-works, and the slimsy nature of this new covert-way, he will probably be inclined to think the citadel of semale honour in some danger, and perhaps

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perhaps compare it to the unhappy fort at Oswego, doomed to fall by the negligence and treachery of those whose duty, honour and interest should have obliged them to defend it.

Thus will the malice and petulance of mankind endeavour to stop the progress of every thing that is great and good: it were very easy indeed to confute all these ridiculous oppofers, and to shew the beauty and utility of gawze handkerchiefs by the most irrefragable arguments. But not to mention a thousand others, I would only appeal to the lovers of virtu, whether this fashion will not be of infinite service in the liberal arts: whence arises the superiority of antient statues but from the looseness of their draperies, which were always so contrived as to exhibit through the folds a view of the naked? What then may we not expect from the present love of freedom and undifguifed simplicity? With fo many complete models before their eyes, why may we not hope to see as exact representations of nature from a Wilton, or a Roubillac, as ever came out of the hands of Phidias, or Praxiteles? I heartily wish therefore, for the fake of our eminent statuaries, that the ladies would extend their liberality yet a little farther, and as they have already favoured us with a gawze handkerchief, would, as the fummer advances, indulge us in the wear of lawn petticoats; which would shew at one view the whole harmonious symmetry of female proportion, and raise the art of sculpture to its highest degree of perfection.



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No. 12.

WING SAFED TO THE

No. 12. Thursday, March 24th, 1757.

Surgit amari aliquid.

Luc.

HE goddels Discord (fays La Fontaine) having fet all heaven together by the ears about a golden apple, was, by univerfal confent, banished from the cælestial mansions; in this distressful circumstance the immediately made the best of her way down to earth, and was received with open arms by a certain animal called Man; at this time it was that she first did us the honour to grace our little hemisphere with her presence, in preference to our opposite neighbours the Antipodes, who being a barbarous and uncultivated people, married without either priest or notary, and consequently could have little to do with Discord; for a while she rambled about the world without any fixed abode, fo that Fame, who was frequently fent out in fearch of her, was often at a loss to find out her habitation; it was thought necesfary therefore, that some constant seat of residence should be appointed, where she might always be ready, and within call upon proper occasions; this scheme was attended with some difficulty (fays the fabulist with his usual archness) as nunneries were not yet established, however,

> L'Auberge enfin de l'Hymenée Lui sist pour maison assignée.

An appartment for discord was at last pitched upon, and where, after all, should it be, but in the temple of Hymen.

Though I cannot help looking on this fable as rather too fevere a reflection on the honourable state of matrimony, I am still of opinion, that it may convey no unprofitable lesson of instruction to the candidates for connubial selicity. As our matrimonial sherbett is made

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at present, most drinkers of it are apt to complain with lady Townly, that "there is a little too much acid "squeezed into it," which utterly spoils what would otherwise be a cooling and pleasant beverage; this draught, however, in spite of a late act of parliament, may for ought we know (especially as the summer is advancing) come again into vogue; I heartily wish therefore, that a method could be found out to render it sweet and palatable, that some public spirited man would engage to make it in an entire new manner, and in imitation of the great ASHLEY, * lower it's price, raise its reputation, and get a patent to vend this valuable nectar, pro bono publico.

In the mean time as May-day, and of course the coupling season is not far off, let me recommend to both sexes an ingredient or two which must by no means be omitted, and which at the same time are very cheap and easy to be come at, and these are, mutual goodnature and complacency, which will give the siquor quite another taste than that which generally prevails, and perhaps make it the most agreeable draught which

they ever met with in their lives.

The antients, whose notions of marriage as well as other things differed widely from our own, considered it in a sober and religious light, and had a way of entering into it with great solemnity and devotion. Sacrifices were constantly made on the occasion, and when the victim was slain, care was taken to throw aside the gall; a pretty emblematical piece of advice to the parties to avoid all suture bickerings and animosity, and promote mutual harmony and peace.

In modern marriages I do not remember to have heard of any other facrifices than those which are usually made to Bacchus and Venus on the wedding-night: certain I am that the most interesting part of the antient ceremony is omitted, having observed a little tincture of the gall diffusing itself over the human mind, even after matrimony, by which I am inclined to think

Mr. Ashley, proprietor of the punch-house on Ludgate-hill, London: for a motto to his advertisements in the public papers, and over the door of his punch-shop, he has these words, PRO BONO PUBLICO.

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this necessary precaution has been but too frequently

neglected.

Scarce any of my readers who have ever voyaged up the Thames as far as Battersea, but must have met with some of those young skiff-adventurers, who having never learned to row, afford matter of much mirth and entertainment to the passers by: it is not undiverting to observe how awkwardly two of these gentlemen-watermen handle their oars, to mark the force which is alternately made use of to hurt and retard each other, the quarrels that arise, and the dangers they encounter before they perceive the necessity of pulling together, and pursuing their course by that equality of strength and skill which should be mutually exerted on the occasion.

I have often thought this no bad emblem of matrimony, where we may frequently perceive man and wife shifting the labouring oar from hand to hand, dragging one another round with great vehemence to shew their several forces, rowing direct contrary ways, with twenty other ingenious methods of exposing their want of skill; till experience at last teaches them, that all the art lies in pulling together, and that half the pains which they take only to make themselves ridiculous, would, if rightly applied, be more than sufficient to steer them safe into the harbour of peace and happiness.

It hath been remarked that travellers in a stage-coach shew very little inclination to be sociable for the sirst ten or twenty miles, and seldom begin to grow good company till towards the end of the journey; in like manner many of those whimsical travellers whom Hymen drives in his nuptial carr, will look very sour upon one another at first, but when time has jumbled them a little together, and reason told them that they may as well be good company as not, have agreed to jog on with chearfulness, and in spite of had fare and dirty roads, be as happy as society could make

them.

I have known many an abfurd couple, who after feolding and scratching for twenty or thirty years, have

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have at last parted the best friends in the world, and expired in each others arms with all the impassion'd fondness of a bride and bridegroom.

According to the received maxim of better late than never, this is certainly a prudent resolution: as life, however, is short, or, to carry on the allusion, rather more like the Turnham-green than the York stage,* I see no reason why any gentleman and lady who have taken places in the matrimonial vis à vis, should not set out with good humour and complacency, and endeavour to preserve their sociable disposition with a desire of being mutually pleased and satisfied throughout the whole journey.

I shall conclude this paper with an elegant little copy of verses from an unknown correspondent, who assures me in a letter prefixed to them, that they were really written by him not long since, and sent to his mistress with a wedding ring, the day before his marriage; as the thought is pretty, and the expression poetical, I make no doubt but they will be acceptable to my

readers.

VERSES to a LADY, With a WEDDING RING.

O All the pure joys of innocence,
Source of happiness or woe,
Instant to my Calia go;
Haste with this fond impassion'd line,
Tell her I long to call her mine;
To be the master of her charms,
And press her in a husband's arms.
'Tis not the topaz' yellow blaze,
'Tis not the brilliant's sparkling rays
Whose borrow'd charms can dazzle me,
I only ask Fesicity.

And more from thee I shall receive
Than India's mines have pow'r to give.

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Turnham-green, a fmall village distant from London about 3 miles; the city of York is 150 miles from London; a stage coach goes to each place.

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have at is Thy modest round no splendour shews, But still with mildest lustre glows; My all of pleasure or of pain W.CONTILL Thy little circle must contain; Or joy, or grief or peace or strife, The colour of my future life. Alas! when we are held by thee In vain we struggle to get free. O! that thy magic force could bind In chains as fast the wandring mind; Then might'st thou strive, nor strive in vain Along the * Sympathetic vein Thy warmest influence to impart, And steal into my charmer's heart; There might'st thou kindle fond desire, There ev'ry tender thought inspire; Support the never-dying flame. And keep my Calia fill the fame.

The vein which is supposed to run from the fourth singer of the left hand directly to the heart.



No. 13. Thursday, March 31st, 1757.

Mores hominum multorum vidit.

Hor.

To the CENTINEL.

BATH, March the 26th, 1757.

DEAR COUSIN,

You will pardon the familiarity of this address from a person who hath not as yet the happiness of being known, though nearly releated to you; you must know, Mr. CENTINEL, that I am the only son of your good friend and kinsman captain SENTRY, nephew to the never-to-be-forgotten fir ROGER DE COVERLY,

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COVERLY, and am now in possession of COVERLY hall, and all the demesnes thereunto belonging; which were formerly the property of that worthy KNIGHT of hospitable and facetious memory, in the good time of your ingenious predecessor, his cotemporary, the SPECTATOR.

As parents very feldom bring their children up to their own professions, being thoroughly acquainted with all the inconveniencies belonging to them, and imagining, I suppose, that every other calling being exempt from those particular objections, are free from all others likewife; my father had entertained an infurmountable prejudice against my receiving a commission, and therefore at the age of eighteen removed me from school to the university, and from thence fent me with a Scotch tutor to stroll through all the courts of Europe. This gave me fuch an early habit of roving from place to place. planted on a natural disposition to view variety of objects. and inspect into the different manners of countries, that I have been ever fince a wanderer, reading as I go that mysterious moving volume called MAN. I have at present made an excursion from our gay, political, and mercantile metropolis to the city from whence this letter bears date, at this time beginning to be the vernal refort of the infamoully necessitous, and the undeserving wealthy; of some diseased through intemperance, and others healthfully idle; of fools with large fortunes, and knaves with none at all; in short, of men of all ranks and capacities, who are huddled together in the mysterious orgies of gaming; which, like the grave, levels all distinctions.

As I have a home myself, when I sirst came hither I imagined every body else had one also, and made not the least doubt but that all, who figured splendidly here, would find somebody who knew them elsewhere; but, alas! how often have I made my enquiries in vain? there are many in this place, of both sexes, whose names and saces alone are known, but in other respects are like the description given by the psalmist of the wind, for we know not from whence they came, nor whither they go. These people, like ultimate causes, are always, when sought after, left to the knowledge of the

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Lord only; nay even the very account they constantly give of one another, when asked, is that, the Lord knows; this, you'll say, is delivering them into very good hands, but should a curious observer reslect on the manner of their spending the time the Lord has given them, he would naturally conclude whatever knowledge the Lord may have of them, that they have very little concern about him.

As my call hither is chiefly to read a page or two of that learned and unlearned volume I mentioned above, I have taken the liberty of fending you a small commentary and a few notes upon what I have already perused, and if you approve of these, shall from time to time, during my stay here, communicate my farther readings, observations, corrections, emendations, or by whatever other technical term of critical knowledge you shall please

to distinguish my thoughts.

To enable me more thoroughly to execute this arduous task I was introduced on my arrival at Bath, by the right of consanguinity, to an old maiden lady of our family, Mrs. Deborah Watchum, who has resided here these last twenty years, and being herself unagitated by, and unagitating any passion in others, has had an opportunity all that time of making her observations, totally unohierved herself, upon whatever passes on the parades, in the rooms, at the church, and the theatre. By her I am surnished with sertile hints, sagacious remarks, entertaining anecdotes, and elucidating sillustrations.

I need not observe to you, that in every city, town, or village, there is one man who monopolizes all the wit and humour of the place, and may, without impropriety, be called the lord of the manor of good things, for all waifs and straifs there found, become his property. The guandam Esopus of the English stage, who has retired hither from Shakespear and Ben Johnson, to John Dory and red Mullart, is that lord of the manor here, and every witticism that is not immediately owned, is by this tenure appropriated to him.

Mr. Quin having abdicated the Theatre, is now finishing the evening of his days at Bath.

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As this gentleman, who, besides these acquisitions, has a great share of good sense, wit, and humour of his own, is in convertation, what we call in painting, a manerist, it is very natural for the witty to give many a droll faying to him fuitable to his character which would have ill become that of the person who said it; by which means he becomes the inimitable FALSTAFF, whole character on the stage he has often fo well represented, not only very witty himself, but the cause of wit in other men. Fictions of this kind, as they are both natural and entertaining, are not only pardonable but commendable, for to put that into his mouth which he is very capable of faying himfelf, though perhaps he really did not fay it, is very fair, and I could heartily wish the joke would stop here, but as all things are liable to abuse, many a dall thing, which he really is not capable of faying, is by imitating blockheads attributed to him likewise, and his mouth is made the same use of as the celebrated lion's head at BUTTON's coffe-house, from which fir RICHARD STEELE, when he conducted the Spectator, used to say he drew more wit and more nonfense, than he thought human nature could conceive.

The next most remarkable personage in this place, but, indeed, longo proximus intervallo, is the celebrated Mr. N-, who, by the suffrage of three or four fucceeding generations, has been invested with an uncontroulable, unlimited, and absolute command over the dress, time, and conduct of all those of both sexes, who compose the beau monde. He, alas! BELISARIUS like, is now grown old in the fervice; nevertheless this NES-TOR in ceremonies still retains his authority, and entertains often, or more properly rebukes, the gay and the giddy, with emphatical recitals of the more sober conduct of their fathers and mothers, their grandfathers and grandmothers, repeating the wonderful things that done in their days, and in the old times before As this geatleman, by his office, may be regarded as a retainer of your superior authority, which extends over the whole island in general, I not only pay him the respect due to his own extraordinary merit, but have an additional regard for him as one of the chief deputies

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of the high CENTINEL of Great Britain. I cannot fay that I have heard much of the bons mots, the smart repartées, or facetious remarks of this gentleman, and though I have been told every day with an air of encomium that he is eighty-three, I never have yet met with any one of his warmest admirers who have retained fo much as one of his fayings, or who ever invented one for him. I would not here be misunderflood to mean, that this conspicuous figure never opened his mouth, during threescore years superintendance over the falutary and prolific waters of this place, or stood mute like one of the time-striking images at St. Dunstan's, or the giants at Guild-hall, for I am credibly informed, at every day during that space of time, he has uttered articulate founds for many hours; all I affert is (to speak with precision) that I never heard he ever faid any thing; long life and not fancy is the apparent happiness of this sage, and, if report fays true, many of the individuals, component parts of our unerring legislature, have considerable sums of money depending upon his breath, or, to use the true technical term of gaming, upon his head; I make not the least doubt, there is a wonderful treasure of knowledge heaped up in that inestimable repository, though he has been, like pecuniary mifers, so niggardly in the use of it; to think otherwise would be obliquely casting a reflection on several members of the two most respectable bodies in Europe, who never would have hazarded fuch great fums in these perilous times, upon a head that was not replete with science, more especially to as this head is pitted against that of our immortal LAUREAT*; when I say immortal, I mean in regard to his fame, not his natural life; for was that to endure as long as his incomparable odes, it would only end with the diffolution of the globe itself.

As I have not been very long here, I have not yet collected materials for other characters, which must be the subject of future letters, I shall content myself therefore in this with the above two, the forementioned general account of the place, the different designs of the

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company, and, what I value above all, the opportunity of making myfelf known to one, who by his abilities does fuch uncommon honour to our family. then your esteem, after this self-introduction, that I may become useful to the CENTINEL general, I have for once put a force upon my inclinations, by entering, with feeming spirit, into the present important business of life here, the card-table; for, though I really think there are some concerns of greater importance to a human being than the most luminous conception of the full force of thirteen cards at the scientific amusement of Whift, yet in order by this compliance to make more accurate discoveries of characters in the agony of play. I have plunged into the thickelt, and am become to all appearance one of the principal pillars of every partie at the three chief objects of the rational faculties. namely, Whist, double Tour, and Cribbidge; for, from the reason abovementioned of my intention to speculate upon these mysteries, I never confine myself to one game, or one let of company. I must ingenuously confels however, that my chief propenlity would be to cut in among the ladies, but were I freed from this employment, I could not always afford to do that; for those fair enchanters have got such winning ways with them. as a celebrated wit here archly observed, that a man pays dearer for his favour than perhaps he would do for a much more confiderable one.

Don't imagine from this, that I have neglected the ball-rooms, for I have put down my name at SYMPSON'S for this season (which for reasons that shall be nameless I have a little partiality to) and as the number not amounting to forty has not yet authorised the public ones to be opened, I have been the foremost always among the gay and amorous, in promoting a weekly subscription for private balls, and have constantly every Thursday night not only took up my stand there, but have sooted it in a country dance, even to satigue cale-

donian nymphs, and new married women.

These, sir, are my abilities, my present situation and employment; which, if they are capable of serving the public by being useful to your lucubrations, you may

command

command them to the utmost, and may depend upon faithful intelligence of whatever worthy your notice passes from time to time during my residence here; for I shall consider myself stationed in this place by the greatest public authority, to watch carefully, and (as POPE says upon a similar occasion)

" Shoot folly as it flies, " And catch the living manners as they rife."

I am, dear cousin, with the fincerest respect,

Your most obedient servant,
and affectionate kinsman,

ROGER COVERLY SENTRY.



No. 14. Thursday, April 7th, 1757.

Nullus in orbe finus Baiis prælucet amenis.

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HOR.

To the CENTINEL.

BATH, April the 2d, 1757.

SINCE I did myself the pleasure of writing to you last, we have received at this place a very considerable reinforcement of real and imaginary invalids; of some old fellows who think they want young wives, and of young girls, who are very certain that they stand in need of husbands; of gaping heirs who attend the tottering carcasses of the expiring wealthy, and of the rich childless who come to these salubrious streams to procure themselves suture heirs; of those who, in the equal distribution of providence, having abundance of the good things of this world, are not so plentifully provided

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provided with ideas; and those who, not abounding with those substantial goods and chattels which fortune has already given her favourite sons of dulness, still court the smiles of that sickle goddess, and now and then by a little dexterity of hand, correct the mistakes of her dealing, at those mysteries which are here nightly performed to her honour.

There are a few others of both sexes, who do not come under any of these general descriptions, being either fuch as having neither passions nor peculiarity in character, are mechanically carried on in a dull unentertaining and unentertained uniformity of life, which might more properly be called animal vegetation; or fuch, as being bleffed by Heaven with a superiority of understanding, regulate their own appetites by the severe and wholesome rules of reason, and preserve their properties from the snares of the necessitous crafty, and their characters from the ridicule of the maliciously witty. I am afraid this last number may easily be contained in one very little chamber, whilst that miscellaneous mob abovementioned crowd one another in SYMPSON's enormous temple of chance (one of the long rooms) which, like the grave, opens its capacious doors for all comers, and like the grave too, swallows its thousands every hour.

I make no doubt but you have done me the justice to observe how properly exact I have been, in my account of our additional recruits and the company in general, to affociate those together, who, though so opposite in character, stand mutually in need of each other's affistance. Should a caviller object, that the gay and the gouty are by no means proper companions, I answer, that I never maintained they were, I only fay that they stand in need of each other's assistance, for the practice of charity is to be preferred to compassionable pleasures: thus, though a new married old debauchée of forty, with chalkstones at the ends of his fingers and toes, may not be able to continue his dose of claret with the fashionable volatile, still vigorous rake of twenty one, who is a thriving candidate for the same infirmities, yet his unbreeding wife of eighteen, may have occasion for such affiltance in her evening parties, to give an additional

force to the deobstructing qualities of these efficacious waters. To continue the illustration with one instance more, though the old fellows I mentioned, who come in quest of young wives, have no real occasion for such an addition to their outgoings, nor can the young girls have what they stand in need of supplied really by such yoke-mates, yet will I appeal to both parties, whether or no in the end, their respective expectations are not fully answered by such conjunctions? What an elisium then, what a happy place must this be, where contradictions are reconciled, where repugnancies accord, and oppositions, which time or nature have inviduously made, are united to form the harmony of fociety, and carry on the great end of creation !

I am much furprifed that our legislature, considering what numberless benefits many, very many members, of both houses have received from this place, has not granted fome particular privileges and immunities to this city; for, if I am not misinformed, several ancient families in those respectable bodies would have been utterly extinct, nor would their names have been continued to posterity in living characters, if their wives, their mothers, their grandmothers, and, for aught I know, their ancestors mothers for many generations back, had not visited Bath and imbibed the prolific streams that perpetually flow to the affistance of our fair country women, and no doubt will continue to do fo when the actions of the prefent times shall be read with

aftonishment by our admiring fuccessors.

As I consider Miss RANDLE at the pump-room, Mr. MORGAN at the coffee-house, Mr. SYMPSON (or more properly his managing fifter Miss SYMPSON) at one long room, Mr. WILTSHIRE at the other, and the learned Mr. LEAK the bookseller himself, as retainers, by the nature of their employment here, to the office of the high CENTINEL of Great Britain, when I am at any of their respective quarters I place myself as near their persons as I conveniently can, in order to receive information from these faithful nomenclators concerning the company present; for to read over the lift of the nameless names of subscribers at each place, without the ex would who ever I kno wags comi up, cent

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the explanatory notes of these intelligent instructors, would give one no real insight into the histories of many who never were heard of before they came hither, nor ever will be heard of again when they leave the place. I know several old maids have leer'd suspicion, and young wags wink'd archness, when they have observed the uncommon assiduity with which I have frequently edged up, as the croud passed away, to either of the two semale centiness abovementioned, attributing the desite I had of squeezing in my little, round, plump, smiling personage to the ear of their fair damsels, to other motives, than what did truly instigate me.

I mention this circumstance, cousin CENTINEL, to shew you that I am more qualified (now the time of life is coming on when the passions listen to the voice of reason) to be a proper coadjutor to you in your great undertaking, than I might have been a few years ago when the mind itself was more desirous to gratify than controul them; for men never so forcibly make observations upon the failings of others as when they just begin to be free from them themselves; but to return from

these reflections to my subject.

Confidering the county of Somerfet has been a land flowing with milk and honey, and the market at Bath look'd upon to be not only one of the best but one of the cheapest in England, it has been no small matter of wonder to me that the fleek Justice and the fat Alderman have not yet smell'd it out as a place of recreation for them, indeed some reverend rectors and double-chin'd prebendaries have annually found their way hither, and know by experience that this good old city filleth the hungry with good things, though the rich it sendeth empty away. I do not mean to infinuate that these ornaments of our church come hither on purpose to eat. for they confider meat in no other light than fultenance. and if the disorder in their stomach, which calls them for relief to these waters, happens to return periodically when Turbut and John Dory are in feason, it might look like affectation and spiritual pride to refuse talting these delicacies; therefore they industriously obviate the least appearance of giving offence by such misplaced abstinence.

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Whatever good effects these waters may have upon the corporeal system of man, I must fairly own I have not yet perceived they have an enlightening power over the intellectual, nor can they boaft of being mixed with the smallest rill from the Castalian spring; for though every feafon fwarms with animals who make those things called copies of verles, I cannot recollect ever to have feen but one (entitled a hymn to mis LAURENCE, &c.) which could convict the author of the crime of poetry, therefore I should be inclinable to conjecture that Styx and Lethe gush plentifully into these streams in their fubterraneous passages, and give them that fervency and fancy-quelling nature, for which they are fo remarkable. I must own I wish, for the sake of some retainers to the muses here called players, that these waters had not such a benumbing quality on the faculties of the mind; for I must inform you that though every other dissipation is followed here, theatrical diversions, savouring of rational amusement, are much neglected, notwithstanding Mr. Brown, in compliance to the fashionable folly of the age, has scenes painted in the natural Chinese taste. feveral well-winged flying dragons, pasteboard carrs, plentiful flakes of white paper fnow, good store of thunder and lightning, together with descending clouds, trap-doors, and all other requifite decorations to furnish out those witty amulements called harlequin entertainments, as if they had been written by those two immortal pantomime poets in conjunction, JOHN RICH, esq. patentee of Covent-garden, and Mr. HENRY WOOD-WARD, secretary for Columbine affairs to the managers of the theatre royal in Drury lane. As to Mr. BROWN's own merit as a player I will not insist upon it, because to be fure (to use the irresistable arguments of some ladies and fine gentlemen) nobody can have any merit out of London, otherwise I really should have suspected this man must have had some nature about him, as the audience, the other night at a bespoke play, committed violence upon their features, by laughing very heartily at BAYS, though most people there had feen it performed before by the justly celebrated and inimitable Roscius of this kingdom. Though I will not compare Mr. BROWN'S And Selling

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BROWN'S with Mr. GARRICK'S performance in the Rehearfal, I will venture to affert that many other parts of the drama were better played here than in London; for if a natural representation is the criterion of perfection in the imitative arts, the players, who performed the characters of such, were (as a friend of mine wittily observed) so very like themselves, that they convinced all present, how superior nature is to the utmost efforts of art.

I make no doubt but the gentlemen, who give tea on a funday night, would take it ill should I pass over their munificence unnoticed, especially as being talk'd of seems to me to be the only motive for dragging the fine men and fine ladies, already fatigued with their attendance at the abbey (for you must know religion is some how or other taken into the fashionable system of amusement and subscriptions of the place) from their evening's private partie at home, to loll infipidly over stale bread and butter and cold tea for two hours together, where the inviter and invited are heartily tired all the time, laugh at one another secretly, and are sick of their miscellaneous company, and all this is done to comply with the all-governing stupidity of established custom, this you will easily believe, as great part of the beau monde at Bath is a colony from the great metropolis, and regulates its conduct accordingly; for fine gentlemen and fine ladies don't trouble their heads about what is right, or their hearts about what is their own inclination, but obedient to irrefistable fashion, they always do what every body does, and never do what nobody does. Now who this much-respected everybody, and who the muchneglected nobody is, I will describe in another letter.

I think, cousin Centinel, I have now given you a general idea of the company and amusements of the place, and have thrown out sufficient hints (upon which I make no doubt, many of your readers will greatly improve) how very useful as well as salutary these waters are and may be made to the good people of these three kingdoms, who twice a year send their representatives hither as regularly as their other members to St. Stephen's chapel at Westminster. It is a received axiom in politics,

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that in the number of the people confifts the strength of the community; from such premises then it may easily be proved, nay, algebraically demonstrated, that this fmall city is more conducive to the wealth and power of Great Britain and Ireland (I mean to speak of the more refined part of our species) than any fix towns in his Majesty's dominions, not excluding the aspiring ambition of Bristol wells, Scarborough, Tunbride and Cheltenham from the number. I don't place in competition those little imitating scenes of summer resort, Harrigate, Buxton and Matlock, at all which places I shall take up my fland this summer in their respective seasons. I propose staying here a fortnight longer, and then shall return to town, where I intend paying my compliments in person to one whom fortune has so deservedly plac'd at the head of our family. I am, dear coufin, with the fincerest regard,

Your most obedient servant,
and affectionate kinsman,

ROGER COVERLEY SENTRY.



No. 15. Thursday, April 14th, 1757.

Respondere paratus.

William to his

OVID.

AVING received two ingenious letters from my coufin SENTRY, of Coverley-hall in Worcestershire, now at Bath, with which I entertained my readers the last fortnight, I flatter myself they will not be displeased if I lay before them this week my answer to my worthy kinsman, which they shall have verbatim, without addition or mutilation, as follows.

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To ROGER COVERLEY SENTRY, at Bath in Somersetshire.

LONDON, April 9th, 1757.

GOOD SIR,

Hope the important concern I have upon my hands will sufficiently apologize for my not answering your first obliging and entertaining letter, before I received the fecond favour; but as you already feem fufficiently apprifed that the welfare of these great kingdoms, which depends fo much upon my vigilance. is not to be neglected for mere matters of ceremony, my excuse, I dare say, is already pleaded in your breast before I have committed it to paper. After returning you the fincerest and warmest thanks for the assistance you have already afforded, and the flattering promises you have given of still continuing so valuable a friendship and correspondence, I must congratulate myfelf, my family, and my country, (for I have a lively sense of your abilities) that my very good friends fir ROGER DE COVERLEY, and captain SENTRY have left all their amiable qualities, as well as their fortunes. to one who will make fo proper a use of both in the service of his country.

It is now, cousin, I very well remember it, thirtytwo years ago, last Candlemas, fince I was at Coverleyhall; you was then a little round jolly boy, which shape I find you still retain, just put into breeches; ah! could your worthy father have lived to have feen this day !- but he is gone after his worthy friend the Spectator, who, I have often heard my coulin Bridget fay, was your godfather; and she used to attribute the roundness of your face, when a child, to the accidental circumstance of that sponsor's putting his remarkable short countenance over the font at the ceremony of the christening; which, poor man, I find he furvived only fix weeks: if there is really any power (as your maiden aunt always believed there was) of a godfather's conveying a mental fimilitude, as well as a corporeal one, to the favoured infant, by looking down

down upon the holy water, I and the world shall still have farther obligations to my deceased friend for transmitting his lucubrating spirit one generation lower to chastife the vicious, to laugh the giddy out of their follies, and forward and establish the good in their purfuit of happiness through the paths of virtue. I am afraid I shall become ridiculous to the spirit of infide. lity that reigns at present in the world, by confessing that I begin to have some faith in this affair myself: nay, fince I have begun to own the forwardness of my belief. I will farther fairly acknowledge that more than once I have imagined there was a fecret virtue even in the SPECTATOR's reading glass, which your father, of ever respected memory, gave me, and in the tobacco box and filver-tip'd stopper of his venerable predecessor ISAAC BICKERSTAFF, efq; which latter was fent me as a present, when I first entered into my office as CENTINEL-general, from the public-spirited executors of that greatly revered antiquarian THOMAS HEARNE of Oxford. I have particularly observed that every paper I have written, when I used those inestimable moveables, breathes a superior spirit to the rest.

Those low-minded people, who are contented with nothing but what is accounted for by reason, may turn such thoughts into derision; but let me tell the scoffers, there is more in these things, than is dreamt

of in their philosophy, as HAMLET fays.

The assistance you have already afforded, has not only laid an obligation upon me, but has, I find, given great pleasure to the generality of your readers, many of whom, dissipated as the times are, have a very respectful remembrance of the good old Worcestershire baronet, your great uncle; nay, some of them had a personal acquaintance both with him and my ever honoured friend your father captain SENTRY. But, as insidelity is a principal characteristic of the present age, there are numbers in this metropolis, and, I make no doubt, many even where you now are, who make a doubt whether there ever were such people; and still farther, if my information be true, several gentlemen, who have been from the beginning of the season at Bath,

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Bath, have wrote word to their enquiring correspondents in London, that there neither is now, nor has been any fuch person as Mr. SENTRY there this year, and the whole of the two letters fo subscribed is a gross imposition both upon me and the public: what will this world come to! in a day or two more, I suppose the non-entity even of my person will be maintained, and some sagacious coffee-house orator will considently advance, and herhaps be believed, for we have those who have faith for the groffest absurdities, that the very existence of the CENTINEL-general of Great-Britain is purely imaginary; but I give my country this fair warning, that if this heretical feet gains ground, I will defert my important post for ever, and leave them to the care of these envious malignants; which if I do, the world may cry out with the poet,

Quis custodiat ipsos

Cuftodes ?

the desertion of my post will perhaps give them as much delight as it will give the rest of mankind sorrow; however I shall not be compelled to that extremity till I find the symptoms of an approaching universal credulity about my existence strong upon the people, and my authority treated with a consequential contempt; my spies tell me (and they are very saithful creatures, who are two wise to be imposed upon themselves, and too honest to impose upon me) that they find no body inclinable to believe I don't exist, but such as have reason to wish I really did not.

 become so atrocious as to molest me, who may properly be considered as a supplement to their authority, if as our great dramatic poet observes,

"Good name in man or woman "Is the immediate jewel of their fouls."

Surely, cousin, it behoves every conscientious man to be very cautious how he endeavours to talk away the body and foul of his neighbour at once, without which he can have no name at all. But perhaps our opponents have not thought deep enough to understand this inference, otherwise I have candour and charity enough to persuade myself they never would have gone such prodigious lengths. I must ingenuously confess, that two sparks at the Bedford coffee-house, the other day, whose conversation I accidentally overheard, had irritated me fo far, that if I could have brought my action against them in foro sensus communis I certainly should have fued them; but as the practice of that court now a days is entirely laid aside, and the common law of England running diametrically opposite to those institutions, I passed over the injury done me, paid my sixpence at the bar, and walked home ruminating and growling at the licentiousness of the present age. I believe I should have had resentment enough for the fake of mankind, and not out of a principle of revenge, to have moved a certain court of judicature upon this occasion; but proper reflections upon a law-suit I had some years ago, which I will relate as a case in point (according to the language of the gentlemen of the long robe) deterred me from profecuting my litigation any farther. You must know then that in a dispute two attornies raised betwixt me and a very good friend and neighbour some time ago in the country, about a right of common, it was necessary, my lawyer told me, that I should prove the deaths of my grandfather and of my father, and likewise my own birth. With these instructions and many others how to proceed he left me to the care of my own understanding and my attorney. When the day of affize came I attended with four or five creditable witnesses who were by at the deaths of my grandfather

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her and and my father, but brought nobody to prove the latter part of my instructions, namely my birth, imagining my own actual presence in court would have sufficiently proved that event. Judge then, coulin, how great was my furprise and disappointment, when I heard the council for the defendant learnedly distinguish, and infilt upon it, that though my presence there might be a proof of my existence, it was none of my birth. Upon this very point therefore did the whole cause turn, and a decision was made against me. The case is to be found in the law books, particularly HARDHEAD's reports, under the title of CENTINEL versus BULL-RUSH, where it stands recorded that a man, who bore his Majesty's commission for the peace many years, and had ferved feveral fessions in parliament, was never born. Now if these defamatory, or properly annihilatory gentlemen, or their attornies, in case I had brought my action, had ever heard of this case, would they not have had immediate recourse to it and proved my non-existence in the following manner? Every man alive was born; it has been proved the CENTINEL never was born; therefore he does not exist. certainly would have been the conclusion, for though the law contradicts all other reasoning, it never contradicts itself; and a determination having been already made that I never was born, what chance should I have stood of receiving damages? but though this was my unfortunate fituation, I would by no means advise you to acquiesce under such an insult, because perhaps you may be able, by the affiltance of council learned in the law, to prove that you was born some time or other, which are very good premiles to build your proof of personal existence upon.

Notwithstanding this unheard of way of my coming into, and making a figure in the world without ever being born, I hope, dear cousin, you will still continue your friendship and assistance to me, and, in return, born or unborn, whilst I exist I shall ever remain,

Your most oblig'd friend, and affectionate kinsman,

CENTINEL.

No. 16.

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BENEVIK BENEVIK CALDER

No. 16. Thursday, April 21st, 1757.

Barbarus heu Gineres insistet Victor, et urbem
Eques sonante verberabit ungula:
Quæque carent ventis et solibus ossa Britanni,
(Nefas videre) dissipabit insolens.

Hor.

To the CENTINEL.

SIR.

A syou have undertaken the office of guardian to the public, I beg leave to appeal to your judgement and authority, in an affair which deeply concerns the community, of which I am a member.

I am a citizen of London; who some years ago, retired from a life of toil and anxiety, to a small house in the neighbourhood of the capital, where I proposed to fpend the remainder of my days in peace and tranquility, and employ my time in such acts of humanity, as might be serviceable to my fellow creatures. I thought I had left all the envy, animolity, disappointment and misery of life in the busy scenes of London; and that I had fixed my relidence amidst the quiet mansions of rural happiness, where strife and indigence were altogether unknown. This hope was of short duration; I found more faction in the veltry of a country parish, than in the common council of London; more envy and flander at the vifiting of the curate's wife, than ever I heard at the rout of my lady mayores; and more beggary among my neighbours, than is to be feen in St. Giles's, Clerkenwell, Hockley-in-the-Hole,* or any bye place in the suburbs of the metropo-We have had sufficient exercise for our charity in

^{*} Places in London, the buildings wherein are of a fimilar structure with those in Pig-Alley, New-street, &c. and the manners and customs of the inhabitants, literally correspondent.

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the coorse of a long, severe winter, which in many refpects has been unufually unfavourable for the poor. We may observe for the honour of England, that common beggars fare best in times of calamity, which open the hearts of the affluent to an uncommon exertion of benevolence. But, there is one species of indigents, which, more than any other, excites the compation and sympathy of the beneficent and humane; I mean, those, who from opulent circumstances, have declined into the vale of misfortune, and though the the least able to bear the attacks of misery, endeavour, from a pride which is perhaps more decent than laudable, to conceal their diffress from the world. They know that poverty necessarily exposes them to contempt, which to a mind of fenfibility is more intolerable than all the other stings and arrows of outrageous fortune; want they in fecret endure, as a personal inconvenience, but they avoid contempt as a public difgrace. I was lately witness to a scene which I protest to you, Mr. CENTINEL, has made an impression upon me, that I believe will never be effaced. The widow of a timber-merchant, who had lived in affluence, finding herfelf, by the premature death of her husband, reduced to a very forlorn fituation, took refuge in a small, though neat cottage, built upon the edge of a common, and supplied with a little flower-garden, which was nicely cultivated in the days of her prosperity. To this cottage of pleasure she used to make frequent excursions in the fummer; and here the passed many an afternoon in rural, and not inelegant simplicity. At her husband's death the retired to it, as the only habitation she could call her own; the companion of her diffress, was a daughter the widow of a sea lieutenant with her child a girl about eight years of age, and this daughter's pension of thirty pounds constituted their whole revenue. For some years they lived with an appearance of decency, though totally fequellered from all communication, till the daughter died, and all the resources of her mother were cut off. She, nevertheless, appeared at church with her grandchild in mourning, and the girl having now attained her thirteenth year, afforded the promise of a very H agreeable

agreeable person; a humane lady, who lives in the neighbourhood, suspecting the low circumstances of the grandmother, called at the cottage, and offered to edn. cate the child in her own family; the old gentlewoman thanked her with an air of fullen pride, and bleffed God that none of her family had ever been in the condition of fervants: the rejected all advances that were made to her by her charitable neighbours; she was observed to pawn her household furniture, and her wearing apparel piecemeal: she no longer came to church, and her grandaughter gradually put on the appearance of want and mifery. During this last hard winter, no baker was ever feen at her door, no firing was carried into her lonely hut, and scarce any smoke issued from her chimnev. The overfeers of the poor were defired to visit and affift her; she met them on the threshold in wretched attire, declined their affistance, and told them they were fet upon by her enemies to affront her. At length the boards that formed a little fence to her yard, were torn down for fuel; the grandaughter became more meagre and more naked, and her piteous moanings were often overheard by passengers. I took it for granted that this hapless pair was reduced to extremity of distress, and resolved to relieve them even in their own despite. went to the cottage, accompanied by two honest tradefmen of my acquaintance, I knocked at the door, and after some delay, was admitted by such a melancholy spectre of misery as I could not behold without shedding tears. It was the wretched damfel, wrapped in an old, tattered blanket, exhibiting in her countenance the marks of famine, grief, horror and despair: when I entered the place, nothing was to be feen but bare walls, except in one corner where the grandmother lay expiring upon fraw; fhe had been in consequence of cold and hunger, suddenly seized that very day, with the dead palfey, which deprived her of her speech; and the poor, forlorn maiden, would not leave her in that condition, lest she should die in her absence. Believe me, Mr. CENTINEL, language is not able to convey an idea of what I felt upon this occasion.. You may be fure they were not left in fuch extremity of indigence.

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The old woman died next day, notwithstanding all our assistance; my wife has taken the grandaughter into her care and protection. The cheeks and upper bar of their grate, were the last things they fold to purchase a loaf; for a whole week they had not tafted bread; but fublisted upon old turnips which had been turned up by

the plow, in a neighbouring field.

The distress of this woman, you will say, was owing to her own pride and obstinacy; but, there are many other families of worthy people who have lived in plenty and credit, now starving from the same principles, upon a narrow income which was formerly sufficient to procure the indispensible necessaries of life. The cry of dearth begins to be heard throughout the land. Bread is risen to more than double its usual price; the rates of butchers meat and all forts of provision, are increased in the same proportion; insomuch that the common people who used to live comfortably by their labour can hardly procure the most homely fare for themselves and their families; nor is there any prospect of speedy relief for alleviation: on the contrary, we are threatened with an immediate aggravation of the calamity, and indeed with every scourge that heaven can inflict upon a land devoted to destruction. If this dearth is owing to a real scarcity of grain, why does not the legislature take measures for the importation of a sufficient fupply? This is a confideration of more importance to the public, than all our foreign connections: a confideration not unworthy the attention of the greatest lawgivers of antiquity. If the dearth proceeds from the avarice and felfish views of a few monopolizers, why are not laws enacted for laying open their hoards and granaries, and for punishing the miscreants themselves as the worst traitors to their country? What! will the representative of the nation fit inactive and indifferent, and behold the progress of our distress, from dearth to famine, from famine to pestilence, from pestilence to rebellion, anarchy and total ruin? While the internal plagues of dearth, discord and diffatisfaction menace their country with misery and desolation, will they plan ruinous wars. and external alliances, for the maintenance of which. H 2

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the remaining blood and substance of the nation must be lavished? How long will Britain, like an ass, crouch under the redoubled loads of oppression, without even the consolation of a few gingling bells to chear her as she trudges along. Time was when she bore her burthen with pleasure, because adorned with the trappings of victory; when the faw kings her tributaries and princes in her chains, and heard the fame of her valour and greatness resounded from pole to pole. But what confolation have we at present, when our burthens are become much more heavy, and our backs more feeble? Our victories are changed into overthrows; our glory is faded into difgrace: we are impoverished, vanquished, ridiculed and despised: every mail acquaints us with some new triumph of the enemy: every wind wafts an account of some fresh addition to our loss. If we confider the different circumstances of our situation, we shall find them equally despicable and desperate. Beaten, beggar'd, irresolute, factious and corrupt, without counfel, conduct, courage, integrity or direction; enllaved and insulted by a m-y without virtue, ability or influence; faddled with a debt of eighty millions, the interest of which we can hardly defray; involved in a calamitous war which we cannot maintain; destitute of allies; oppressed with taxes almost insupportable: afflicted with dearth and inflamed with discord. Good beaven! to what a depth of misery is this once happy nation devoted! Though we are entirely abandoned by the spirit of our forefathers; though sunk into the molt abject state of sloth, indolence and cowardice; though we are become such obsequious saves as to kiss the hand of oppression; though overawed by foreign mercenaries* and native dragoons, that feem to contract their circle and close us in on every side; we are still left at liberty to complain; we still enjoy that last consolation of the wretched; let us beliege the throne with our supplications: let us invoke the k- as our common father; that we may be treated as children, not as aliens; that we may be shorn, not flead; that we may be ruled with

The Hanoverians and Hessians, imported upon the alarm of an invasion by France, were in England at the publication of this paper.

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whips rather than with scorpions; and that we may be led by conscientious guides, not driven by desperate hirclings. If our prayers are excluded from the royal ear; if we are denied the benefit of his paternal virtue, let us put on sackcloth and ashes, and prolitute ourselves before the throne of a yet more powerful sovereign: let us deprecate that wrath which our enormous climes have kindled; and implore that mercy which hur penitence may deserve. Our woes are almost past human remedy, and therefore we require the interposition of an almighty protector.

Ambola en insidera I am, ingla da grade ma lang

Tivit des a sing 2 sing Sir,

Your humble fervant,

BROTOPHILUS.



No. 17. Thursday, April 28th, 1757.

Non omnes arbusta juvant, humilesque myrica.

TOTHING has been so often explained and yet so little understood as simplicity in writing; and the reason of its remaining so much a mystery, is our own want of fimplicity in manners. By our prefent mode of education, we are forcibly warped from the byass of nature, in mind as well as in body; we are taught to disguise, distort and alter our sentiments until our thinking faculty is diverted into an unnatural channel; and we not only relinquish and forget, but also become incapable of our original dispositions. We are totally changed into creatures of art and affectation; our perception is abused, and even our senses are perverted; our minds lose their nature, force and flavour; the imagination sweated, by artificial fire, produces nought but vapid and fickly bloom; the genius, instead of growing Longermeis H 3

like a vigorous tree that extends its branches on every fide, buds, bloffoms and bears delicious fruit, refembles a lopped and stinted yew, tortured into some wretched form, projecting no shade or sheher, displaying no slower, dissuling no fragrance, producing no fruit, and exhibiting nothing but a barren conceit for the amusement of the idle spectator.

Thus debauched from nature, how can we relish her genuine productions? As well might a mon distinguish objects through the medium of a prism, that presents nothing but a variety of colours to the eye; or a maid pining in the green sickness, preser a biscuit to a cinder.

It has often been alledged that the passions can never be wholly deposited, and that by appealing to these, a good writer will always be able to force himself into the hearts of his readers; but, even the strongest passions are weakened, nay fometimes totally extinguished and destroyed by mutual opposition, dissipation and acquired insensibility. How often at our theatres, has the tear of sympathy and the burst of laughter been repressed by a malignant species of pride, refuling approbation to the author and actor, and renouncing fociety with the audience? I have feen a young creature possessed of the most delicate complexion, and exhibiting every feature that indicates fensibility, fit without the least emotion, and behold the most tender and pathetic scenes of Otway, represented with all the energy of action; so happy had the been in her efforts to conquer the prejudices of nature, the had been trained up in the belief that nothing was more aukward, than to betray a fense of shame or sympathy; the feemed to think that a confent of pathon with the vulgar, would impair the dignity of her character; and that she herself ought to be the only object of approbation. But, the did not confider that fuch approbation is feldom acquired by disdain; and that want of feeling is a very bad recommendation to the human heart; for my own thate, I never fail to take a furvey of the female part of the audience, at every interesting incident of the drama; when I perceive the tear stealing down a lady's cheek, and the fudden ligh efcape from her break, I am attracted towards her by an irreliftible emotion of tendernels

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lustre, through the pearly moisture that surrounds them; my heart warms at the glow which humanity kindles on her cheek, and keeps time with the accelerated heavings of her snowy boson; I at once love her benevolence, and revene her discernment. On the contrary, when I see a fine woman's face unaltered by the distress of the scene, with which I myself am affected, I resent her indifference as an insult on my own understanding; I suppose her heart to be savage, her disposition insocial, her organs indelicate, and exclaim with the fox in the sable,

O pulchrum caput, sed cerebrum non habet.

Yet this infensibility is not, perhaps, owing to any o iginal defect. Nature may have fretched the firing. though it has long ceased to vibrate. It may have been displayed and distructed by the first violence offered to the native machine: it may have lost its tone through long difule; or be so twifted and overstrained as to produce an effect very different from that for which it was primarily intended. If so little regard is paid to nature when the knocks to powerfully at the breaft, the must be altogether neglected and despised in her calmer mood of ferene tranquility, when nothing appears to recommend her but simplicity, propriety and innocence; a clear, blue fky, spangled with stars, will prove a homely and infipid object to eyes accustomed to the glare of torches, tapers, gilding and glitter; they will be turned with loathing and difguilt from the green mantle of the fpring, to gorgeously adorned with buds and foliage, flowers and bloffoms, to contemplate a gaudy negligée, striped and interfected with abrupt, unfriendly tints that fetter the mailes of light, and diffract the vision; and cut and pinked into the most fantaftic forms, and flounc'd and furbelow'd, patch'd and fring'd with all the littleness of art, unknown to elegance. Those ears that are offended by the sweetly wild notes of the thrush, the blackbird and the nightingale; the distant cawing of the rook, the tender cooing of the turtle, the foft fighings of reeds and offers, the magic murmur of lapfing streams; will be regaled and ravished by the extravagant and alarming notes of a fqueaking fiddle, ex-

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tracted by a mulician who has no other genius than that which lies in his fingers: they will even be entertained with the ratling of coaches, the rumbling of carts, and

the delicate cry of cod and makarel.

The fense of smelling that delights in the scent of excrementitious animal juices, fuch as musk, civet and urinous falts, will loath the fragrance of new-mown hay, the hawthorn bloom, the fweet briar, the honey-fuckle and the role; and the organs that are gratified with the talle of fickly yeal which has been bled into the palfey, rotten pullets crammed into fevers, brawn made up of dropfical pig, the abortions of pigeons and of poultry, 'sparagus gorged with the crude unwholesome juice of dung, pease without substance, peaches without taste, and pine apples without flavour, will certainly naufeate the native. genuine and falutary tafte of Welch beef, Banftead mutton, H mpshire pork and barn door fowls; whose inices are concocted by a natural digestion, and whose flesh is confolidated by free air and exercise.

In such a total perversion of the finses, the ideas must be misrepresented, the powers of the imagination difordered, and the judgment of confequence unfound. The difease is attended with a false appetite, which the natural food of the mind will not fatisfy. It must have fauces compounded of the most heterogenous trash. The foul feems to fink into a kind of fleepy ideo ifm, or childish vacancy of thought. It is diverted by toys and baubles which can only be pleasing to the most superficial curiofity. It is enlivened by a quick succession of trivial objects that gliften and glance and dance before the eye, and like an infant kept awake and inspirited by the found of a rattle. It must not only be dazzled and arroused, but also cheated, burried and perplexed by the artifice of deception, bulinels, intricacy and intrigue, which is a kind of low juggle, and may be termed the legerdemain of genius. This being the case it cannot enjoy, nor indeed diffinguish the charms of natural and of moral beauty or decorum. The ingenious blush of native innocence, the plain language of antient faith and fincerity, the chearful refignation to the will of heaven, the muqual affection of the charities, the voluntary respect payed noffen

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No. 13

to superior dignity or station, the virtue of beneficence extended even to the brute creation, nay, the very crimson glow of health and swelling lines of beauty, are despited, detested, scorned and ridiculed as ignorance,

rudeness, rusticity and superstition.

The greatest part of last month I passed in the country, to mark the first fymptoms and gradual progress of the fpring: a great number of theep were turned out with their lambkins on a neighbouring common, and many perished through the ensuing severity of the weather. Though I was rendered unhappy by the diffress of those poor animals, I could not help being pleased and affected with the humanity of the farmer at whose house I lodged: he and his family tended, fed and folded them, with patriochal care; and lamented the fate of every individual that chanced to die, not from the fordid considerations of lucre, but from motives of real compassion. One bitter day, when winter seemed to have returned with all his terrors, my landlord's youngelt boy came running to his father with looks of eagerness and difmay, and told him that one of Nanny's lambs was dying in the fnow. His fifter Nanny, a blooming girl of fixteen, who stood rinfing her milking-pails in the yard, instantly quitted her work, and hasting to the common, foon returned with the little fainting animal in her bosom, and the tears trickling down her cheeks. I had never feen such an expression of beauty, tenderness and sweet simplicity; and wished for the pencil of a Raphael or Guido to perpetuate the idea. She carried her patient to the fire, where it was dried, warmed, chafed and refreshed with milk conveyed through a quill: the creature revived and recovered, and nows follows Nanny as its dam and protectrefs. I could not help comparing this picture with what I have often observed in St. James's park; a fallow, meagre, haggard nymph of London, fluttering "in her robe's discordant pride," attended by a gigantic footman in livery, carrying under his arm a huge, shaggy, snarling, prick-eared cur, as the favourite of his lady's fancy and affection.

I shall conclude this paper with the transcript of a real letter which lately fell into my hands, and is no bad

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specimen of rural truth and simplicity. It is directed to the reverend Mr. Hurden in Clare market, cheese monger and butterman, London; and indeed, I at sirst imagined that in these hard times, some poor clergyman might have had recourse to such a profession for a livelihood; but upon recollection, I conclude that the epithet of reverend was applied to Mr. Hurden as a mark of respect only. Though the letter is addressed to Mr. Hurden, it appaers to be written to his 'prentice, in these words.

" Dear Child

In good health as it hath left us and your lowing father and mother received your present and return you many thanks for it and the times are so hard that we your loving father and mother would have made you some small present but cannot yet and I your loving mother have been in a poor way are since that heavy news came of your brothers death therefore my good child be dutiful and submit yourself unto your master Mr. Hurden avoid ill company and take care of beeing deluded and I your loving mother should be glad to see you but I am asraid I shall not live to see you so no more at this time from your ever loving father and mother Benjamin and Elizabeth Swain

"And wheat and barley is so dear with us that poor folks with families can scarce get food to keep them alive"

Here is no embroidery or oftentation, but simple truth decently expressed, without any supersuous ornament, except a redundancy of the copulative particle and, which the good folks thought necessary to make their epistle hang together. Though we cannot point out the sublime in any part of it, we must own it abounds with good sense, contains some moving touches, and the postscript is an affecting instance of the pathetic.

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CHEROMODICATIONS

No. 18. Thursday, May 5th, 1757.

Pauci dignoscere possunt

Vera bona. Juv.

HAT universal discontent and disquietude which runs through every rank and degree of life hath been deservedly condemned by the philosophers of all ages, as one of the bitterest reproaches of human nature, as well as the highest affront to the divine author of it: if indeed we look through the whole creation, and remark the progressive scale of beings as they rise into perfection, we shall perceive to our own fhame and confusion, that every one seems satisfied with that share of life and happiness which its maker hath appointed for it, Man alone excepted, who is pleafed with nothing that his bounty imparts, unless bleffed with every thing that his power can bestow, perpetually repining at the decrees of providence, and refuling to enjoy what he has, from a ridiculous and never-cealing defire of what he has not.

That object which is at a distance from us is always the most inviting, and that possession the most valuable which we cannot acquire. With the ideas of affluence and grandeur we are apt to associate those of joy and pleasure, and because riches and power may conduce to our happiness, we hastily conclude, that they must do so; that pomp, splendor and magnificence which attend the Great is visible to every eye, whilst the forrows which they feel, and the dangers they are obnoxious to, escape our observation.

Hence it arises, that almost every condition and circumstance of life is considered as preferable to our own; that we so often fall in love with ruin, and beg to be unhappy:

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anhappy; we weep in short when we ought to rejoice,

and complain when we ought to be thankful.

The fun, fays an Eastern fage, was finking behind the western hills, and with departing rays gilded the fpires and turrets of Golconda, when the captive Selima from the window of the fon of Nouradin's feraglio. casting a mournful look at the country which she saw at a distance beyond the boundary of her confinement. fixed her eyes on some cottages which she could dis. tinguish by the thin smoke ascending from them, and feemed to envy the humble condition of the lowly in. habitants; the longed to exchange her own fituation for that of innocent poverty and chearful tranquility: little by little the envied prospect faded on her fight, and the listened with horror to the crashing of iron bars, and the closing that furrounded her; till at length all was hush'd, all became quiet as the hours of night, and stillness advanced; she then burst forth into

the following foliloguy:

And was I formed a reasonable being (she cried) for this? to be excluded for ever from fociety, and doomed to add one more to the flaves of the monarch of the East; have I deserved this at the hand of providence, or exacted this unequal lot from the genius of diffribution? Did I ever turn mine ears from the cries of the needy, or shut the open hand of mercy from the poor? Why then am I punished in this manner, why for ever denied the bleffings of mutual love, and fated to weep in vain to the walls of a prison-house? While I was a child, the angel of death closed the eyes of my parents, when as yet I knew not their loss; and a few moons ago the same minister of terror bore from my arms a fifter whom I loved, to the land of filence and shadows; the rest of those that were dear to me groan under the bonds of servitude in the mines of Agar, or traverse the great waters in the ships of India; some happier few who have found grace in the eyes of the fultan live only to shew me the difference between what I was and what I am; yet the remembrance of those I lost, I bore with refignation; I wept indeed and retired, but as yet repined not; but to know no

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end of milery, to be kept as a witness to the luxury of those who were once our equals, is farely the worst that can be inflicted: I have faid to the flaves, why will not my ford the fultan dismiss the maid whom he thinks unworthy his embraces, and whose presence will rather cast a cloud over his pomp than encrease it? but they treat my tears and my remonstrances with fcorn, nor are their hearts melted in them with pity : night and filence are over all the feraglio, even the horrid guards to whose care we are resigned are fast locked up in sleep; when, O! when shall I enjoy that sweet oblivion? Discontent and perpetual uneaffness of mind, banish from my eyes all propensity to rest, the night only affords me an opportunity to vent my complaints, and my greatest happiness is this hour of universal repose, when I can undisturbed and unmolested give ut-

terance to the forrows of my heart.

As the was speaking these last words, the shades of darkness were suspended on a sudden, and a light diffused itself around her like the flash of mid day: she looked up and beheld, when Azazel the angel of reproof became visible to her sight; she bowed her head in the dust and humbled herfelf before him. Selima (he cried) arise, thou misguided child of affliction: I am that genius who was with thee when thou wast as yet a child, and in my book were thy future fortunes written; I was with the angel whose ministry it was to seal the eyes of thy parents, and who laid his hands on thy fifter; under my influence wert thou brought as a captive unto Amurath from the banks of Oxus, and immured in the walls of his feraglio; thou hast complained of thy fate, thou halt faid that the eye of thy genius frowned on thy birth, and that misfortune has marked thee for her daughter: but I am come to clear thy doubts, and to direct thee where thou may'll find the mansions of rest; let my words fink deep in thee, and grave them in living characters on thy heart. I will take away the milt from before thine eyes, for thou knowest not what thou hast said: they hast lamented the fate of thy fifter who is happier by far than ther art, and who has her station assigned her in the realms realms of blifs. The fituation of thy companions who have appeared pleafing to the fultan has been the object of thine envy, but alas! thine is a paradife to theirs; thou hast repined at that solicude which, hadst thou made right use of, it would have taught thee to know thyself, and hast grieved that thou wert not born to that beauty which thousands never posses, and which would have been to thee as a punishment instead of a blessing. I will now shew thee what but for my interposition would have been thy own destiny, had this thy last, thy presumptuous wish been crowned with success; hadst thou been bidden in thy turn to deck with oriental pomp the bed for Amurath, and repose on the silken pavilions in the inner chambers of the palace: turn thyself to the east and view there what I shall

explain to thee.

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She turned and beheld a weman feated on a throne, furrounded with every circumstance of Eastern magnificence; the was fair as one of the Houries, and spark. ling in the gold of Indostan and the diamonds of Surat: in her presence every mouth was dumb, every knee bended with fear, and every eye fixed on the ground; yet the feemed to receive the adorations of the crowd with coldness, nor was her heart glad at the approach of her lord; the feemed alone as to herfelf, though amidft wondring thousands and ten thousands at her feet. View her yet again (he faid) Selima, as the crowd retiring leaves her in her closet, and what happiness does the feem possessed of that thou wishest to be thine? Does not that gloom that hangs on her brow owe its being to fear? Is the not conscious that treachery or chance can in a moment bring her licentious happiness to an end? And guilt, that viper in her bosom, destroys all relish for pleasures, and points out to her the vanity of all joys which have not virtue for their foundation - But fee, the guards rush in at this moment to seize her and accuse her of having conspired the death of her lord .- Mark how the fplendid apartments and alcove of pleasure disappear, and in their flead the joyless gloom and grated windows of a prison. robe of co

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-Now she is hurried in, they throw the black robe of death upon her; in vain does she now think of command, in vain wave that hand which a few hours hours before would have stilled the raging of the people, and humbled the rulers of the world; the now begs to be heard, and has recourse, as her last aids, to entreaty, tears and proftration, but in vain: she is dragged down on the rocky pavement by the hands of flaves who offer her the difmal alternatives of the poisoned cup, or the fabre-She drinks, and fee fhe finks yet and yet paler to the earth --- See the last convultive struggle-the dying gasp, and the figh that rends the heart in the last agony: - fcarce is there a pause,-they strip the yet warm body denied to be joined in burial with the queens of the land, and expose it for a prey to the eagle and vulture.

Such, short-fighted maid, would have been thy latest hour; and thy end would have resembled hers: bear then thy present fate without repining, nor dash the cordial which hope presents thee with to the ground, but wait with patience for a happier hour; their lot only may be called miserable whose faces were never covered with shame, and who go down unrepenting to the grave --- Hope is yet thine, which can turn the walls that confine thee to the bower of content; then fay not in thine heart that thy portion here is with the wretched, nor by wishing to alter the allotment of providence, provoke the rage of a power infinitely greater than mine, which can crush thee to atoms at a blow. When he had spoke these words he stretched out his arm over her, and she sunk down on a sofa into the arms of fleep, from which she awoke in the morning with a conviction of her late unjust repinings, and with a perfect relignation to the lot which her genius had assigned her in the terrestial abode of life.

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No. 19. Thursday, May 12th, 1757.

Quam temere in nosmet legem sancimus iniquam!

HAT is become of the boasted liberty of this nation, when a subordinate of the CENTINEL-general of Great Britain, is obliged to truckle to the insolence of arbitrary power? The following petition I yesterday received from one of my deputies, who used to guard the temple of wit, under the great piazza, in Covent-garden.

From the Hold of his M-y's Tender the INFERNAL, lying off Mill-my-buff stairs, May 5, 1757.

The PETITION of TIMOTHY TATTLE,

Humbly Sheweth,

HAT your petitioner in croffing Ruffel-ftreet uron his lawful occasions, was on Wednesday the 4th instant, apprehended by a press gang, and by force and violence conveyed on board of the Infernal tender, notwithstanding his repeated declaration that he exercised the employment of deputy under the CENTINEL-general of Great Britain. That the officer of the gang, instead of paying respect to such a venerable title, spoke of your excellency in the most opprobrious terms; swearing that you was no better than a pyrate, as you acted without any commission from his Majesty; that he would stand athwart your hawfer, and if you did not keep a good look out afore, run you aboard and bring you fast to your moorings. That your petitioner is not only deprived of the fresh air and the light of day, but also confined in a damp dungeon, without necessaries, in the midt of filth, stench, vermin and discase, and surrounded with this

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with every species of misery and despair; that his eyes behold nothing but acts of cruelty, tears, agony and death; that his ears are incessantly invaded by a hideous concert of ratling chains, bitter curfes, groans and lamentations; that a methodist tallow-chandler had hanged himself in the night to a ring-bolt, by means of some candle-wick which happened to be in his pocket; that an author, for having attempted to act the roman part by falling upon a rulty nail, was first disciplined with a rattan by the mate, and then stapled down upon his back, in which posture he lies, invoking all the gods to punish his oppressors. That your petitioner having been detected in tampering with his brother centry, who stands at the hatchway, received a blow from the boatswain, by which he has lost two of his fore teeeth, and was threatened with the bilboes and a rope's end if ever he should make another attempt to escape. He therefore humbly entreats your excellency will out of your great goodness, make application for his discharge, or at least procure an order that he may be immediately fent upon fervice against the enemy, that he may have some chance for being knocked on the head, rather than rot and die by inches in this pestilential abyss.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall for ever pray.

This intimation was brought to me by a person of a decent appearance, who is mafter of a fhip belonging to some merchants in the city: he had been fellowprisoner with my deputy, and released by an extraordinary connexion of interest. His owners no fooner understood he was pressed than they applied to the regulating captains, who advised them to petition the admirality; that honourable board referred them to the regulating captains, and these again referred to their former report; fo that between these rescrences the man's fortune would have been wrecked, and he mult have served on board of a man of war in the station of a common failor, had it not been his good fortune to have a kinfwoman who is kept by a clerk in the navyoffice. This lady espoused the cause of her cousin, and I 3

in his behalf employed her influence with her keeper, by whose interest the man obtained his discharge.

Confidering the infult offered to my deputy, it will be no easy task to discuss this topic with coolness and moderation; perhaps this is a subject that ought not to be treated with moderation. If such acts of tyranny are practifed in a nation that lays claim to liberty, and has expended feas of blood in defence of that liberty, the grievance will hardly be redressed by cool arguments. The people of this kindom are grown to dull and phlegmatic that their attention must be roused by loud clamour, and warmed into resentment by passionate declamation, before they take any effectual step for the security of their privileges. In this land of boasted freedom let us fee to what injustice and oppression we are daily exposed; not that I pretend to enumerate every instance in which the individual may be injured without all possibility of redress; that would be the talk of a man's whole life, rather than the subject of an occasional essay: I will content myself with the single article of compelling men into the service of the nation; a practice infinitely productive of public mischief as well as private mifery: a shocking outrage on the natural rights of mankind, and an eternal reproach to the government by which it is patronized.

If it be alledged that this practice is warranted by necessity; I ask to what a forlorn condition are we reduced, when we must be driven like Muscovites or slaves into the field to fight the battles of our prince? The necessity of pressing men into the service would never have occurred, had the ministry taken any pains to guard against this evil, which of all others is the most grievous to a free people. Volunteers would never have been wanting, had proper regulations been established to screen our seamen from insult, injury and oppression on board of the king's ships; for ascertaining the payment of their wages, and taking off that restraint which puts them on the footing of galley-flaves, Plans of police for this purpose, the most practicable and effectual, have been repeatedly offered to our g-s, who have either totally neglected them with the most supine indo-

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lence, or started frivolous objections to their being put in practife; as if they had been in a conspiracy against the welfare and liberties of the nation. Far from endeavouring to alleviate the rigour of these arbitrary proceedings, by punishing those who mingle unnecssary cruelties in the exercise of oppression; they have countenanced their dependants in all the wantonness of barbarity: they have lent a deaf ear to the cries and complaints of the injured; they have found means to vest extraordinary power in the justices of the peace, by which every puny wretch who can infinuate himself into the commission, is enabled to play the tyrant, and insult his betters with impunity.

What would a sensible foreigner say of the freedom of the English, if he knew the persons and characters of those who are the guardians of the k—g's peace in Middlesex and Westminster, if he contemplated the crew of low, illiterate tradesmen, sharpers, beggars and bailists, that constitute the bench and retail justice in twelvepenny remnants? would he not exclaim with the

poet,

Inflice is lame as well as blind among us!

Would he not say how can peace and equity be maintained, when the ministers of justice have no other sub-sistence than the sees arising from discord and iniquity? This traffic, indeed, is carried on under colour of justice, which may be some consolation to the injured: but the practice of pressing at see, is performed without form or distinction of law, person or circumstance. The innocent are apprehended by surprise, without any cause of delinquency assigned; and every petty officer of a king's ship, acts as judge and executioner with the most despotic authority.

A man after an absence of seven years, during which he has expended his constitution, in earning a competency for the remainder of his life, embarks for his native country with a view to revisit his family and friends, and pass the evening of his days in peace and tranquility, after the severe storms he has undergone. His wife expects him with the most eager aff ction; his

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children long to fee the face of a parent whose name has been so often founded in their ears; his former friends impatiently wait his return; and he himfelf amuses his fancy with the hope of enjoying those dif. ferent scenes of tender recognition. When he has already finished his voyage, feasted his eyes with the fight of his native shore, and his heart beats high with the transports of approaching bliss; the ship in which he is a passenger. may be boarded by a tender belonging to a fquadron outward bound. He is challenged as a man fit to ferve his majelty: if he presumes to remonstrate against com. pullion, he is treated with fcorn, infolence and cruelty: he is dragged into the boat, hurried on board of a man of war, exposed to every kind of inconvenience, flave. ry and outrage; reconveyed perhaps to the very fame unhealthy climate in which his conflitution had been impaired; and never more beholds his native foil, but miserably perishes by grief, distemper, or the chance of war, at a distance from those who are most dear to his offection. Had he been taken by the foes of the nation, they would have treated him with humanity: he would have been exempted from drudgery and danger, and let at liberty in consequence of an exchange. Had he been enflaved by the enemies of the christian name, he could have been ransomed for his money: had he fallen into the hands of pirates, they would have stripped and set him on shore: but, among his own countrymen, he is even denied the privilege of captivity, which is protection from infult and peril: he is confined to the most loathsome habitation, amidst thieves and reprobates, restricted to coarse and scanty fare, compelled by obloquy and flipes to toil above his strength, exposed to every peril of the enemy and of the deep, without any prospect of redress; and deprived of the benefit of exchange or redemption.

If the subjects of this kingdom are liable to such brutal acts of oppression, no wonder that our sleets are poorly manned; and that able silors are averse to the service. The enemy have some reason to believe the British spirit is quite excinguished, when they hear that our army and navy are recruited by unwilling wretches

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who have been torn from their families and occupations, confined in dungeons, and terrified into submission by whips, bolts and shackles. They will conclude that disaffection and discontent prevail throughout the land, when individuals refuse to serve the g-t but upon compulsion. These considerations will animate endeavours, will encourage them to undertake enterprizes of importance against us; will even contribute to their fucceeding in these enterprises; while we become dispirited and desponding in the same proportion. We shall fultain misfortune on misfortune, dilgrace upon difgrace, until the national wealth is wasted, and its honour entirely effaced; then we shall tamely beg, perhaps purchale, an unfavourable peace; and all those miscreants whom we have used in war as the instruments of death and rapine, will be let loofe like troops of famished wolves to prey upon their countrymen already impoverished and depressed by the misconduct of a weak and worthless ad _____n. We shall become bankrupts in our public credit; incur the contempt of all our neighbours, endure all the agonies of mortified pride; and our posterity will stigmatize this period as the most inglorious r-n that ever difgraced the British annals.



No. 20. Thursday, May 19th, 1757.

Aspices et dulces moriens reminisitur Argos. VIRG.

F all the reflections that the calm moralist has it in his power to make on death, whether they are the casual topics of conversation or introduced merely for the sake of argument, it is observable how rarely they make any impression on the heart; nay, how seldom he that makes them himself is affected by them: in worldly concerns we see in him the same appearance

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appearance of important hurry, the fame hopes and fears with his cotemporaries; yet it is still stranger that when we see such numbers of our fellow-creatures, every hour dropping into the gulph of eternity, that we never once strive to recollect our scattered thoughts, or think seriously on it, till solicitude for our own ap-

proaching death rouses us to a sensibility.

Of all the terrors which attend on death, as uncertainty of what or where we are to be, recollection of faults which prompt us to a late and vain repentance, and a thousand others, I know of nothing that strikes us so much, while we live and are in full health, as the thoughts of the pleasures we must leave behind: I was led into this train of thinking by the line of Virgil at the head of my paper; where the poet speaking of a man who fell suddenly in battle, he fell (says he) and as he died turn'd his thoughts on his much-loved Argo; it seems, as if at that very moment a thousand ideas had rush'd into his mind; a thousand endearments which he had never sufficiently valued before; a wife and children that he must leave, and visionary schemes of happiness which must have an end with his life.

Custom, as it habituates the body to carry a weight with ease, which at first it would have sunk under, makes us every day less affected by, and more familiar with sights which in the infancy of our passions we could not have look'd upon without horror; I can find no other reason for the general unconcern which we every where see but this; the death of others we no longer regard as a silent warning to ourselves to prepare for that state where we must one day be, and our forrow is indeed seldom more lasting when the ties of blood or connexions of friendship are broken; for even then, though we bear about us the trappings of mourning, a few days reconcile us to them, and we are no more moved by the cause, than by any other trissing occurrence that took its turn and was remembered no more.

Let him, who is unmoved and can hear without one ferious thought of the deaths of those around him, and consider them as only clearing the too crouded stage of life and making way for his own merit to appear, re-

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pair to the bed of death and take a lesson from some dying friend; the only one that will perhaps fink deep enough in him, and bestow on him that conviction which he would feek in vain from science or books : I would not have him expect it from one whose race is run, and who has been tired of life long before he was freed from it; such a one we suppose has long expected it, and regretted the loss of its enjoyment before the thought was suggested by the approach of death; in them it is what we look for, and often wonder why it comes no fooner; there is not that unwillingness to go hence, nor that agonizing struggle that tears the foul from the body: let him rather look for it from the fight of the last moments of some young acquaintance, who in the midst of his successes, in the meridian of life, is called to render up an early account : there he may see the mind in the midst of uncertainty and inquietude ; sometimes depressed to a state too like despair, and sometimes distracted at the thought of those he must leave; no longer flattery has access to his heart, no longer through pride is it proof against the admonitions of conscience; all the happiness he is then in a capacity to receive, he must have from the remembrance of what good he has done and all that has tended to decorate life, all the flowers he has selected from learning, and all that ambition to please, he will consider no more as objects of desire, and rather wish the time employed in the pursuit had been set aside for the cultivation of folid virtue. The contemplation of this would be making some advantage of death, and excite in us a kind of useful terror, we should then have the fatisfaction to think we went not away from that melancholy scene unimproved, nor reflecting on the good it had done, be ashamed of being conscious that fear had done that, where persuasion would have failed. These reflections, when it should be our own lot, would smooth the bed of death, give us leave without terror, to look down the precipice from whence we must shortly fall, prepare us without confusion to attend to the difinitive fentence, and fultain with refignation the pang which attends our final diffolution.

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For however books may have taught us to think we can look on death with courage, and confider it only as the means by which we are freed from corporeal fufferance; yet I believe no mind while yet in its vigour (or few at least) were so well instructed, that, to use the beautiful expression of a modern poet, they

Left the warm precincts of the chearful day, Nor cast one longing, ling ring look behind.

Since then the thought of those we are to leave behind is fo likely to be our last, we ought surely to leave them as the remembrance of them may not reproach us; to recollect in time the injuries we have done to each of those whose merit through envy we have been blind to, or whom we have injured; for though part of our life is only made up of trifling occurrences, in these we may give equal proofs of our justice or de-pravity as in things of greater moment; and though amid the hurry of bufiness they may be little attended to or forgot, in the hours of fickness they will revive and aggravate the horrors of repentance; let us then while we have yet the power of choice do that justice to every man's character which the fears of death will at last extort from us; and while we are yet in health remember we are not here only to live for ourselves, but to make their lives easy whom fortune has made dependant on us.

To a mind that has the least tincture of humanity, the least feeling for the sufferings of others, there cannot be a spectacle more shocking and disagreeable, than to see those whose blood, same, fortunes and interests are united, and whose good offices should therefore be mutual, torn to pieces by jealousies, hatred and division: such seenes make us ashamed of our nature, and out of love with our very being. The give us the idea of a rude and uninformed world, the antient chaos of matter, where all the elements were mixed together, and nothing reigned but discord, darkness and confusion. Whilst on the other hand, a well-regulated and happy samily, where order and harmony are preserved, where peace and tenderness, love and affection reign,

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untainted by discord, unembittered by strife and animosity, where there is a constant unwearied endeavour to serve and oblige each other, where the sears of death are so tempered by the hopes of suture happiness that all is regular and uniform; such a family must doubties be a sight worthy of that great Creator who formed the members of it, and an emblem, though an impersect one, of the whole frame of nature, the glorious sabric of the universe, built by the divine architect, whose supreme wisdom so ordained its amazing symmetry and proportion, that each part is persect in itself, and at the same time contributes to the beauty, the magnificence, and the duration of the whole.

How then after all are we to guard against every ill, and be prepared for every calamity, but by cultivating in our minds a settled good will, and habitual benevolence! whatever makes us lovely will make us beloved, and whatever tends to the peace and happiness of our sellow-creatures must render us amiable in the sight of God: the prospect of death, with all its terrors, will by degrees become less formidable to him who is clad in the armour of innocence, and all the calamities of this life will soon lose their bitterness when put in competition with the pleasing hopes and expectations of a

better and more durable one.

SOME SECTION OF THE PROPERTY O

No. 21. Thursday, May 26th, 1757.

Ut, mala quem scabies aut morbus regius urget, Aut sanaticus error, et iracunda Diana, Vesanum tetigisse timent sugiunt que Poëtam. Hon.

Lyoung gentleman who died some years ago in the East indies, I found the following letter singly bound in a very elegant cover; and was so well pleased with the contents, that I shall communicate them to the K public,

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public, as a preface to some detached pieces of poetry, written by the youth to whom this epiffle is directed : in all probability it had the defired effect of preventing him from commencing professed author; for, though he wrote feveral elegant pieces of poetry, he never ushered one production into the world.

BRIGHTELMSTONE, July 28, 1748.

DEAR SIR,

7 HATEVER interpretation you may put upon the freedom of my address, I cannot suppress the dictates of friendship which vehemently incite me to lay before you the dangers and difgraces that attend the character of an author which you feem so bent upon affuming. My judgment in this particular, may be erroneous, and grant Heaven it may prove fo! but, you had better liften to my doubts, disagreeable as they may be, and weigh them well before publication, than run the risque of being mortified with the accumulated cenfure, and perhaps ridicule of your readers, at a time, when your work cannot be unwrit, nor the fentence upon your authorial reputation, recalled. If I thought you would pay more regard to a dead claffic than a living monitor, I would recommend to your attention, the cautions of Hor ce in his epiftles ad Pisones. The itch of writing was as epidemical at Rome in those days, as at present in England, and really seems to have risen to a greater degree of madness; for, one would be apt to imagine from fome expressions in the art of poetry, that many of those unhappy patients sent about a bill, or common crier, to affemble all fuch as were disposed to hear and commend their performances, and that this complaifance in the audience, was often an honest shift to be invited to dinner, to procure bail, or to borrow a fum of money. These favours, I dare say, were for the most part, dearly bought; for, I can conceive no flavery equal to that of liftening to an infipid production, and of counterfeiting raptures of admiration at paffages which inspire nothing but contempt. The case is different with us. Our authors are, for the most part, a fett of people who can entertain with nothing but their works,

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and if that banquet should happen to be disagreeable, the Lord have mercy upon them; they have nothing in reversion, to mitigate the rage of a desperate critic.

There is, I believe, scarce an author in these days, who can number a train of admirers, consisting of such as he hath bailed from a spunging-house, released from a jail, indulged with a place, or regaled at his table. Genius, like the spider, seems to have retreated to the habitations of the needy; where he waves his slender webs together; and works unmolested by the foot of intrusion, with this difference, however; that the ingenious Arachne grows fat upon the slies she has caught, while her meagre fellow-artist often starves amidst all

the luxuriance of his imagination.

Among the ancients, a man of genius was confidered as an ornament to the commonwealth of which he was a member; he was thought to possess the ri beior, or fomething supernatural; to be a gift sent from the gods. and confequently to be kept facred from the necessities of life. With us too, they are counted as persons diflinct from the common race of men; and are generally held so sacred, that most people shun their familiarity. and acquaintance. This is not to be wondered at, if we confider what scandalous tribes have listed themselves under the banner of Apollo. If an attorney is difgraced for corrupting evidence at the bar, 'tis ten to one but he commences wit, critic and author. A knavish apcthecary who cannot live by the artifices of his trade. shall, from distributing quackish advertisements at the corner of blind alleys, fet up for a pattern in the world of tafte, and find means to make the public his daily. patients. A bawd who can no longer thrive by her occupation, shall brandish the pen in the cause of virtue. A lazy bricklayer tired of using common mortar, shall build epiftles in verse, and still retain the trowel of panegyric. A moon-struck curate shall write comedies: and a surgeon for want of practice on the body, shall mangle the characters of his fellow-creatures in abulive povels.

Parnassus is the general rendezvous of almost all those who are disordered in their understanding or fortune:

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no wonder then that few patrons should be found disposed to go thither in quest of genius: they might as well examine all Bedlam and the Mint. Yet furely, there are some who deserve a better fate than that of being neglected in the midst of such a contemptible fraternity.

There are parks among the rubbish, which may be worth the pains of fifting; and a few Iwans may fing

unheard, in the cackling congregation of geele.

There are, likewile, perhaps, some people of fortune. who from vanity and oftentation, would be glad to be thought the judges and encouragers of the arts, and would even pay handlomely for the maintenance of that reputation, were they not conscious to themselves of their own want of discernment, consequently deterred from choosing the objects of their munisicence; lest, in m king an unlucky diffinction they should forfeit the very character to which they lay claim. They are therefore, content to pay their devotions to the dead, who have been glorified by their ancestors; and to damn all the living in the lump, on pretence of their universal duliness. This is certainly the easiest and most eligible way of making good one's pretentions; it exempts them from the trouble of pointing out the beauties of any modern piece; it gives them an air of superior judgment, delicacy and penetration, and keeps them clear of those importunities with which their approbation might be attended: for authors are generally presumpthous enough to think themselves entitled to the protection and good offices of every man who speaks favourably of their works. They forthwith compole dedications, and when they have obtained permission to tack them to some particular name, communicate the favour to their tradesmen, as a bill payable upon sight. These are the inconveniences to which a professed patron is exposed; and if a man can rid his hands of such dilagreeable duns, by pronouncing with a folemn emphasis and important air, the words detestable! stupid! execrable! and the like, why should he undergo the fatigue and expence of such a clamorous train? While other sciences are enlarged, lengthened and diffused, that of criticism, is, thank heaven, contracted into a

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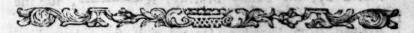
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narrow compass. I believe it would not be difficult to comprehend the whole of it within the circumference of a filver penny; and that without using the affiftance of cypher or fhort-hand. I really hope to fee it one day printed in that volume, together with the Lord's prayer. the creed and the ten commandments. Thank heaven! a person of very moderate capacity will now, in a few days, acquire that, which heretofore, men of the most acute parts were obliged to hunt after, through the rugged paths of learning, study, and close application. Modern taste, like a witch's prayer, consists of maledictions; and when I fee a knot of critics grumbling over a new performance, they put me in mind of those ancient affemblies of forcerers in which the waxen image of fome unhappy wretch who had incurred their displeasure, was fluck full of pins and melted at a fire, while in confequence of their infernal orgies, those stabs were realized upon the object of their hate, and he found the vigour of his body infensibly melting away. Thus, the reputation, which is the substance of an author, is often confumed by the necromancy of his adversaries, couched in a few cabaliftical words, such as hellishly supid! cursed stuff! damned nonsense! and other fignificant expressions equally destructive to the unhappy bard! For. to prove the malevolence of mankind, one need only observe, that though it is not in the power of many friends to fave a poet, a few enemies are able to damn him beyond all redemption.



Thursday, June 2d, 1757. No. 22.

T is with the highest degree of concern that, in spice of all the pains I have taken to recommend these my lucubrations to the favour of the public, I ftill find myself utterly neglected by some, and but coolly received by others: The chosen few indeed, the fons of wit and learning, extol me to the ikies, but I cannot at the

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the same time, without indignation, observe my fellow. citizens at a coffee house throw aside the CENTINEL with contempt, and call for the LONDON-EVENING Post; scarce any thing except news is attended to with pleafure, or rewarded with approbation. My publisher* has, to fay the truth, made no scruple to acknowledge to me, that though the believes me to be a man of great parts and fagacity, the would give up twenty fuch papers as mine for a fhere in the PUBLIC or DAILY ADVERTISER, who, though not distinguished, as I remember, by their extraordinary wit and humour, can, notwithstanding, boast of more readers in a day, than would fatisfy a moderate moral writer for the space of twelve months. + Whilst I reflected on this melancholy truth, it occurred to me, that the most probable means of drawing advantage from the conviction of it, would be immediately to adopt the style and manner of these my illustrious cotemporaries. I have therefore fet the sublime originals before me, and in order to secure attention and applause by a faithful copy, have changed my effay into a news-paper, which cannot fail to exhibit the utile dulci, and convey, like my brother journalifts, both instruction and entertainment.

SHIP NEWS.

COVENT-GARDEN, May 28. Sail'd yesterday, the Charming Lucy, Bridgman, for India, laden with Jewels; the Delight, the Industry, the Pretty Peggy, the Sally Rover, all for Guinea.

Passed by, the Fanny Murray, R-, for the park.

Arrived from Virginia, several rich ships bound to Merryland, the cargo consigned over to Mrs. Douglas.

• Mrs. M. Cooper, at the Globe in Pater-noster-row, London, publisher of the original fugitive paters.

† The prim tive a ers of the CENTINEL, from which this edtion is copied, a e printed each on a sheet AND A HALF of sie writing paper, and contain neither Advertisements or News, whereas, the London-Eve ing-Post, the Public Advertiser, the Daily Advertiser, &c are made up of both.—By this stratagem the duty to be paid for Advertisements is avoided, and the Stamp-duty of one penny A SHEET evaded, as the whole paper consists of more than a sheet.

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The Wasp, Thunder, and Atna fire-ships are put into harbour to careen.

Remain in the Piazza, G d, J n, and feveral others with the buffes and transports.

LONDON.

We learn by a private Letter that the La Roche privateer, with diamonds, is taken by a man of war and carried to Holland.

We hear from Arthur's that the odds are five to four for Nash against Colley Cibber, and that the present Lord Mayor is pitted against the Archbishop of Canter-

bury for five thousand pounds.

By a letter from Berlin we are informed, that the inhabitants are very lad, and very merry, laughing for the king of Prussia, and crying for marshal Schwerin; that they sing Te Deum in mourning, and thank God very devoutly for giving his majesty such glorious opportunities of destroying so many thousands of his fellowcreatures, and thinning mankind.

On funday last in the afternoon many hearts were pierc'd, and many pockets pick'd, many handkerchiess wetted, and more stolen, at the tabernacle in Totten-ham-court-road, St. Dunstan's in the West, Long-acre chapel, and many other places of public entertainments.

It being mutually resolved to dissolve the partnership account subsisting between John and Mary Spindle, husband and wife in the parish of ______, and to carry on the business of matrimony on each separate accounts. If any gentleman or lady has any claim of love or aff ction on either of the said partners, they are desired to bring the same to be satisfied; and whoever is indebted to them, are hereby required to pay the said debts to either of the partners on account of the same separation as soon as is convenient.

The members of the the fociety corresponding with the incorporated fociety in Dublin for propagating the human species in foreign parts, are defired to take notice that a monthly meeting of their standing committee will be held at _____, on Friday next at twelve o'clock precifely.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

At the Shakespear's head Tavern, Covent-garden.

The Tartar and Shark privateers with their cargo from Haddock's, Harris, master; square stern'd, dutch built, with new fails and rigging. They have been lately docked and refitted, and are reckoned prime failors. Catalogues with an account of their cargo may be had at Mrs. Douglas's in the piazza, or at the place of fale. To begin at twelve at night.

MISSING, supposed to be stolen from a boarding-school near -, a beautiful young lady, aged feventeen, daughter of the late earl of _____, and heirefs to thirty thousand pounds independent of her mother. She was observed to walk in the back garden after dinner with Mr. Macmulla the dancing-mafter, and is supposed to have made her escape with him through the yew hedge. She took nothing with her but a bottle of aqua vitæ from her governess's china closet, the second volume of Pamela, and the marriage-service torn out of her common-prayer

If offered to be married to Mr. Macmulla pray ftop

To Cover this SEASON.

The famous stallion S _____, at an hundred guiness, a leap, and half a crown the footman. Is fix foot and an inch high, riling twenty fix years old, was got by Poppet on lady T- 's Frisky, his dam by Spanker, his grand-dam by Bully. He goes well upon his legs, and is free from all blemishes; he has a good deal of bone, and is allowed to be one of the best bred and frongest stallions in England. The money to be paid at the time of leaping. at it coave a cut. No. 2 A Li Bow-At

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A List of his get may be had at Mrs. ____ in Bow-street.

STOLEN OF STRAY'D.

From miss Trolly and co's. lace-shop in Duke's court, a small bay filley, coming sifteen this grass; she has a black spot just under her lest eye, a cock'd tail, goes well upon her legs, and is sit for any weight.

She had been some time in training for a colonel of the guards, but is supposed to have been rode away with by an attorney's clerk going on the western circuit.

Whoever brings her to Mrs. Trolly's abovementioned, or to the guard-room at Whitehall, shall have fifty guineas reward, and no questions asked.

To be SOLD by AUCTION.

By order of the affignees under a commission of bankruptcy, the genuine and valuable effects of Timothy Scribble, efq. author and chapman; confifting of upwards of thirty excellent translations of Greek and Latin authors with notes; two systems of philosophy; a treatife on agriculture; critical remarks on Hoyle; a new modern history; one hundred and eighty-four essays political and moral, defigned for weekly papers, with hints and thoughts for as many more; two tragedies and a half, one of them on an entire new plan, the fable from the fairy tales; one comedy full of plot and incident; fix farces from the French, with char cters for Garrick and Woodward; pamphlets for and against the minitry; a poem on the present war; another ready for the next peace; two large panegyrics; fourteen fatires; with feveral manuscript sermons, dedications, fables, tales, odes, epiltles, &c. &c &c.

Catalogues to be had of mess. O and co. booksellers, or at Mr. Scribble's lodgings in the king's bench prison.

N. B. Mr. Scribble is known to have got ten or twenty pounds per annum by writing for the booksellers these fifteen or sixteen years last past.

A GENTLEMAN wants a companion down into matrimony: he proposes setting out with all expedition; he intends going part of the common turn-pike, or interest road, and striking out into the torest of love about half way. His fellow-traveller must be healthy, not too fat for the journey, and for the sake of conversation, the chattyer the better.

Please to send a line directed to A. B. at the coffee.

house near Cuckold's point, Wapping.

To be Seen at the COVENTRY Cross.*

A cast of the Grecian Venus, in plaister of Paris, It has been greatly admired by the curious, is allowed to be the work of a masterly hand, and the completest model in the universe.

Now SELLING OFF at PRIME COST.

The remaining stock in trade of an eminent clergyman leaving off business and retiring to a bishoprick, consisting of a complete set of manuscript sermons for the whole year, with the fasts and sestivals, including a dification of king Charles for the 30th of January; a culverin charged and primed for the 5th of November, with a rod for the whore of Babylon; the sins of the nation described, in a discourse sit for the next solemn saft; charity, accession, antigallican, and small pox fermons, some half-sinished tracts against the Athanasian creed, the marriage act, and the thirty-nine articles, with several other curious particulars; the whole to be viewed till the time of sale, which will begin punctually at twelve o' clock.

LOST

In the dark walk at Vaux hall, on Tuesday the 24th instant, two semale reputations: one of them had a small spot occasioned by some dirt thrown upon it last week in the road to Ranelagh: the other never soiled. Whoever will bring them back to the owners shall receive five thousand pounds, with thanks.

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DROPPED

From a lady's tongue in the left hand stage-box, at Drury-lane play-house, on Saturday last, five severe innuendos concerning lady C ; four bitter reflections on the duchess of H , some abuse of miss Maria W ; a panegyric on S ; beauty; two small oaths, and a white lye about Spanish paint.

If the above should be offered to be retailed, or repetted by any who overheard, pray stop them, and give notice to Mr. FIELDING, at his register-office in the Strand, and you shall have half a guinea reward.

SIGNORA MINGOTTI begs leave to inform the nobility and gentry that she has found out a method during the present time of universal dearth and calamity, to render them utterly insensible of either, and to prevent their timely relief of the poor, by employing their superfluous money in a subscription to operas the ensuing season. She humbly solicits an early payment, as it may be the means of visiting her native kingdom, and enable her to return next winter with a new band of singers and dancers, worthy of her audience, and equal to her wishes.

Subscribers continue to be taken in by mess. D———and co. at Charing-cross.

Must be Sold,

The owner being a bankrupt; a vote for a member of parliament, for the borough of——, at the next general election. To prevent trouble the price is fourfcore pounds.



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Thursday, June 9th, 1757. No. 23.

Scribimus indocti, doctique Poemata paffim.

Hor.

MONG the papers of the young gentleman whom I formerly mentioned, I found the following poem, which, though a juvenile production, not fully digested, contains some strokes of true genius. Should the public approve of the specimen, I shall occa. fionally communicate other detached pieces of the fame

The COURT of APOLLO.

POLLO from his daily charge withdrew, And to the flow'ry top of Pindus flew : There on a gorgeous throne by nature made, Beneath a facred laurel's awful shade Surrounded by the tuneful Nine he fate, To judge and to decide each author's fate; For wou'd-be wits in clam'rous parties rofe, And wrangling bards disturb'd the world's repose, Soon as he nods, the trumps celestial blow, 'Till the poetic tribe was hush'd below-

" Let all, he faid, whose fouls fair glory charms,

Whom rapture fires or emulation warms;

Who feel within the facred fervour glow,

" The image brighten and the number flow, " Prepare their several merits to display:

Apollo means your several claims to weigh:

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a And He, whose brows are worthy of the shade, " Shall with a wreath of Bays adorn his head." The mandate iffu'd: Lo! each droufy bard Confes'd the God, and sought the great reward: Around his throne, the motley rivals crowd, The grave, the gay, the filent, and the loud, From haunt obscure these solitary creep, While those from courts magnificently sweep: Distinction vain! Here taste impartial rules, And here the Great are only greater fools. Stripp'd of his equipage and gaudy train, Lo! Mævius boasts his quality in vain, While toiling Stephen with industrious stride, Stalks through the vale and labours at his side. Each weighty bard intent to win the prize, Already plucks the laurel with his eyes.

But, see that motley phantom first appear:
By turns projector, satyrist and seer—
With him came humour, buxom tho' impure,
Sarcastic wit, and irony demure:
An hieroglyphic veil conceal'd his eyes,
But, the DEAN stood disclos'd by the disguise.
"This decent holiday (said he) will drain
"St. Luke's, St. Bride's, the Mint and Drury lane.
"Sweet rise the steams when saints like these adore,
"The fool, the knave, the beggar, and the whore."
Apollo overheard th'insulting jest,
And from his throne exil'd the cynic priest.

Mark next, you fickly bard who mounts apace, Fire in his eyes, and conquest in his face? 'Tis Pope, to Phæbus and to Fame well-known, Whom ev'ry Muse is fond to call her own.

Happy, had nature fill improv'd his frame, And form'd his heart and intellect the fame : In this we fee and own th' etherial ray; In that we mourn meer modern mortal clay. Scarce to the prize a side-long glance he threw; Nor deign'd to ask the boon, but claim'd his due. Apollo ey'd his insolence of mein, And mark'd the embryo distates of his fpleen: He law bow spacious affectation spread A blaze of mimic candour round his head: Beheld vain glory toiling for applause, And rancour feize the pen in virtue's caufe. Beheld indignant and with awful frown, Address'd this haughty tyran: of renown. " Say, bard, how couldst thou Atticus accuse

" Of low-born envy and a jealous muse?

" The heart of Atticus betray'd no flain,

" Smooth flow'd his verse, and moral was his strain.

"Whilst thou thy self by envy's fangs art torn,

"Thy frowns o'ercast the genius in its morn,

" Forbid the swelling streams of verse to flow;

" And blast the opining blossom ere it blow."

Yet he who claims the senate's next regard, Succeeds another Flamen and a bard. The mufes droop'd to fee their fav'rite Young. Who erft so sweetly and so sharply sung. How each pursuit at bottom was the same, And ev'ry bosom felt one thirst of fame. New trench'd, alas! with grief's deep-wounding plow, And midnight horror black'ning on his brow, He courts despondency in all her gloom, And draw's reflection's dagger from the tomb; Reject No. 2 Reject And v

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Rejects the proffer'd laurel as a toy,
And weeping, groans, "O my departed joy."

West on the purlieus of you sacred bow'r,
Where balmy zephyrs fan the op'ning slow'r;
Where the rill trinkles thro' the winding grove;
And ev'ry thrush and linnet warbles love.
A youth of gentle mein the pow'r descry'd,
Mild as a faun, and modest as a bride;
The Leshian muse exulted as he came,
New-strung her lyre, and own'd her antient slame:
But he declin'd the honours of the place,
And blushing spoke with half-averted sace.
"I come not hither, wit's immortal sire,
"New charms to urge, or laurels to acquire;

6 To beauty at Colors 1 . There

"To breathe the salutary breeze I stray,

"And contemplation guides my pathless way:"
Such worth and diffidence Apollo swore
Did never grace the soul of bard before.

" Who feeks not to obtain but merit praise,

" Shall reap a fairer mead than wreaths of bays.

" Henceforth let ev'ry art I boast be thine,

- " And fair Hygeia crown the gift divine.
- " Of all the pow'rs that own my parent ray,

" Hygeia blooms most amiably gay;

" Among the woodland nymphs she scours the plain,

" And mirth and music mingle in her train."

Now rising murmurs float along the vale,

And double sweets persume th' ascending gale;

With charms improved all nature seemed to glow,

When her own Thompson climbed the mountain's brow.

" O thou the child of blooming fancy born,

" Bright as the noon, and beaut'ous as the morn,

No. 23.

" Who stray'st with rapture thro' the flow'ry plain,

" And to creation's wonders tune the strain;

"Why yield thy bloom to indolence a prey,

" And let her vapours stain thy mental ray?

" She, fallow goddess, sickens in thy face,

" Lolls in thy limbs, and loiters in thy pace.

" Awake! for thee spring brightens ev'ry flow'r,

" For thee brown summer decks you arching bow'r;

" Arise! plump autumn ripens; rise and see

" How her rich clusters bend their load to thee:

" Turn not away, to fair ambition blind,

" For thy own furly winter frowns behind."-

Now crouds on crouds affemble round the throne,
To verfe, to virtue, and to shame unknown:
Yet ev'ry scrambler for the laurel presid,
And each concludes his own pretence the best:
This on an epigram wou'd found his claim,
That from an empty sonnet conjure same.
One brought a bury'd fragment back to day;
Another caught a particle astray:
Some taught the Grecian comedy to doze;
And others tortur'd Horace into prose.
Soft, slingless satires, odes, and roundelays,
Puns, panegyrics, pastorals and plays,
In long expanded undulation spread,
Form'd one vast, various, ventilating shade.

Through this umbrageous arch, if fame speaks true, Facetious Cibber thrust himself to view:
First gap'd a thoughtless Wittol, and anon
Self-pluming smil'd a courtly Foppington:
Thro' folly's diff'rent masks successive pass'd,
And in a starv'ling poet stop'd at last:

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able NIC Then thus before the Shrine with Suppliant knee,

" Protect, propitious pow'r, my caufe and me:

" Grant that no fev'nfold plates compose my skull,

" Nor that, tho' sometimes doz'd, I'm always dull:

" Witness this genuine offspring of my brain,

Which Colley nimbly fnatching, bore away.

"A work that Pope himself durst ne'er prophane."
Then pull'd the Careless Husband from his breast,
And by that sample bade him judge the rest.
This said, protracts each muscle of his sace,
And stands th' unrival'd hero of grimace.
'Twas then at first, if verse belief may claim,
Phæbus forgot his gravity and name;
And in a fit of laughter dropp'd the spray,

** The CENTINEL does not remember to have received any Letter figned Non-Compos.

Cranticola's Letter cannot be inserted.



No. 24. Thursday, June 16th, 1757.

* Militia potior.

Hor.

In this age of levity and ridicule, it is extremely difficult to procure a ferious attention to any proposal, however important, or however wisely calculated for the public benefit; but sure if there ever was a proposition deserving such attention from every true Englishman, it is

* When this number of the CENTINEL first appeared the public received it with such universal applause, that the publisher being unable to answer the demand, it was inserted in the LONDON CHRONICLE; notwithstanding this, two London-booksellers reprinted it immediately, and sold this single paper alone, one edition for sixpence, and the other for three-pence.

it is this for the establishment of a National Militia, now under the consideration of the legislature; on the success of which I fincerely think, that our glory abroad, our fecurity at home, and our very being as a nation, intirely

depend.

So manifest is the truth of this to the meanest and most absurd understandings, that I never met with one of that kind who has not been clearly convinced of it: to fuch, therefore, I shall not here address myself, but to the wife and fagacious only, many of whom, to my great surprize, I have found of a very different opinion: To these then, I shall endeavour to prove in as few words as possible the truth of the following propositions.

Ist, That such a Militia may soon be rendered not at all inferior to our prefent regular forces.

2dly, That it will effectually secure our liberties, properties and religion.

3dly, That it will strengthen the hands of government.

4thly, That it will reduce the price of our provisions and manufactures, and extend our trade.

5thly, That it will increase the number of our people.

And, Lastly, That it may be carried into execution without any expence to the public.

First then, I shall endeavour to prove that a Militia may very foon be rendered not at all inferior to our prefent regular Forces: And whoever will look back on the behaviour of these forces for some years past both by land and fea, will be convined that this is no very arduous undertaking; nor be under any doubt but that after a few days exercife, they will behave as valiantly as our regiments at Falkirk, Preston-pans, or Oswego, or our fleets in the Mediterranean. Nor can I indeed comprehend from whence their inferiority should proceed; unless strong beer should inspire less true courage than gin, or being trained in a country church yard,* produce a less familiarity

" yard, before and after divine fervice."

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^{*} The paragraph in the Militia-bill, here alluded to, runs thus-"They shall be exercised thus: twenty men at least in a body shall " be exercifed three Sundays in every month, in the parish church-

familiarity with death than performing the same exercise in the gay scenes of Hyde-park or St. James's. If it be objected that they will be deficient in military knowledge and experience; I answer, they will fight the better: The utility of these qualifications in the day of battle is a vulgar error, propagated like all others, for want of reasoning; for all fighting being in its own nature contradictory to common sense, it can never be promoted by knowledge: military knowledge therefore can never be that fort of knowledge which enables men to fight, but that which enables them to find out good reasons for not fighting; or if they should be bad, to call in the affiftance of councils of war and court-martials to make them better. Much less sure will experience induce men to fight, unless we can believe that wounds and bruises, like coffee and tobacco, though disagreeable at first tasting, grow pleasant by frequent repetitions.

Secondly, That fuch a Militia will fecure our liberties, properties and religion. The liberties we so justly value in this country are thefe, that every one may think and write, and fay and do whatever he pleases; but properties comprehend all things of which we are in posfession, by whatever means they have been acquired; these can certainly no way be so effectually secured to us as by the use of arms, by which we may at all times defend ourselves from the attacks of judges and juries, from writs and ejectments, from goals and pillories, with all the tyranny of justices, and impertinence of constables, grievances not to be endured in a free country. As to our religion, a scheme of this kind must have most falutary effects, fince a bill only for its establishment has already produced unanimity between our church-divines and diffenters in one sensible and pious opinion; an event perhaps not easy to be remembered on any other occasion.

Thirdly, That it will strengthen the hands of government, which in this nation being by the consent of all true patriots allowed to be the sole right of the lowest of the people, or mob, with whom such patriots wonderfully agree in their political sentiments, what can so effectually secure to them the dominion they now exercise over us, as putting arms into their hands, and

teaching

teaching them how to use them? this must certainly strengthen the hands of these our governors, and confe

quently of government itself.

Fourthly, It will reduce the price of our provisions and manufactures, and extend our trade; because when the good people of England are thus armed and disciplined, they will be enabled to take away meat, com and malt, and all other provisions, from forestallers and ingroffers, butchers, millers and farmers, at a reasonable price, of which they themselves must always be the best and most impartial judges. When the price of provisions is thus happily reduced, that of our manufactures mult inevitably fall in due proportion; and the reduction of these must as certainly carry more of them to foreign markets, and confequently extend our trade. The truth of this has been fo often demonstrated by all writers on trade, and all whose trade is writing, that it is here

needless to say any more on the subject.

Fifthly, That it will increase the number of our people: to be convinced of which, gentle reader, figure to thyself all the handsomest young fellows in every county, each armed like the hero in a romance, dreft, powdered and tonpeed by the reforming hand of a genteel serjeant; then turn thy eyes to the numerous groupe of fair spectators in Sunday gowns and clean linen, who will not fail to attend to tempting a show; then, if thou haft not loft all feeling both mental and corporeal, thou canst not doubt but that so much valour on one side, and fo much beauty on the other, will certainly produce much mutual affection, and that this will as intallibly be the cause of much procreation, and in a great measure repair the losses occasioned by our migrations to America. and the depredations of gin. If it be objected, that to balance this many lives will be loft by the institution of thele forces, by the accidental discharge of their firelocks, or the too valiant use of their fwords in drunken quarrels; I answer, these accidents may sometimes happen; but, as on the most moderate computation, every man in these corps will probably beget three children before he kills one man, it cannot fail to increase the number of our people. Though this good effect of this truly national Scheme **schem** autho public

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suthor, who has undertaken to recommend it to the public, yet has it not escaped the quick-sighted eyes of our sagacious legislature, who, on this very account, have this year voted a large sum to the Foundling hospital, and propose to increase it still surther as soon as their national forces begin to act in the service of their

country.

Lastly, That it may be carried into execution without any expence to the public, and this by a method fo extremely obvious, that it is surprising the wisdom of parliament has not discovered it. The method I mean is no more than this: that as every man who attends on the days of exercise, and continues sober, is by the present bill to receive sixpence, I would have it further enacted, That every one who is drunk on those days should pay the said sum of fixpence, to be applied towards the support of this national force: a very small penalty, fure, for so great a neglect of duty where the fafety of his country is at stake. Now whoever has been present at a fair, a sessions, a horse-race, an assizes, a cricket-match, or a visitation, or any other numerous meeting in the country, must know, that on the most enlarged computation the number of fober cannot exceed the proportion of one in ten of those who are drunk; and there is no reason that I know of to suppose that the majority will be less on this occasion. If fo, the public, we see, will receive nine times the sum every day that it will be required to pay, and confequently the remaining eight parts will amply supply thele forces with arms, ammunition, cloaths and accoutrements. But if this should not be found quite sufficient, confidering how frequently they will probably be loft, a small matter laid on oaths, many of which they will readily learn from the instructions of their serjeants, would eafily supply all deficiencies, and if the landed officers of these corps would submit to the same penalties, it would much increase the fund: but as these gentlemen, who are to receive nothing for being fober, may think it hard to pay fixpence for being drunk, I would by no means infift on their being included, especially, as I doubt not, but the Sum thus raised will be sufficient to defray all expences, and totally to indemnify

the public revenues.

The objections made to this scheme are so frivilous and absurd, that they are by no means worthy of observation; but of one or two I will just take notice. It is afferted, that gentlemen of estates in the country, will never submit to the duty of officers without pay; but whoever considers how ready these gentlemen are on all occasions to execute the offices of justices of the peace, commissioners of taxes, and turnpikes, how earnest to spend half their time and all their estates to acquire seats, and to attend their duty in parliament, from whence no possible advantage can accrue, must be satisfied that this is but an unjust suspicion, sounded on no reason, and inconsistent with the true zeal, which they have ever shewn in the cause of their country.

It is also apprehended, that many of these gentlemen, by indolence, corpulency, age or gout, will be rendered incapable of fighting; but the very reverse of this is certainly true, because these very infirmities will make it

impossible for them to run away.

And now having demonstrated the truth of every one of my propositions beyond the power of all ministerial scribblers to disprove, I shall conclude, by recommending this necessary scheme to the protection of all true lovers of their country, and earnestly wishing, that nothing may prevent it from being put in execution as foon as possible: then O Britain, O my country, will I congratulate thee on the confummation of thy prosperity, and the happy period of all thy calamities. Long have thy true patriots wished to see thee engaged singly in a war with France, which from thy natural superiority must always be attended with glory and fuccess; long half thou groaned under the oppressions of mercenary allies abroad, and rapacious ministers at home: but at last the time, the happy time is arrived, when our wishes are all fulfilled, and our misfortunes wiped away; when we are in full possession of such a glorious war, without any allies, or any administration at all.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

MY correspondents and subordinate CENTINELS
pour in their speculations in such abundance, that
I find myself under the necessity of multiplying my
days of publication: I shall appear for the suture twice
a week, i. e. Tuesdays and Saturdays. My 25th paper
will be published next Tuesday.

ED DOMAGO DE LA COCE

No. 25. Tuesday, June 21st, 1757.

Man the lawless libertine may rove-

A S it is a point with me to encourage every attempt for the public pleasure or advantage, I can by no means refuse my services to an artist, who this morning has applied to me: I shall take this earliest opportunity of giving him my best recommendations.

The exigences of life have been parents of the arts; and those arts deserve most encouragement which redress the greatest. This person will by no means allow the stomach that honour given it by the Roman poet, either in the call, or the supplies of nature. He afferts his benevolence to have pleaded more in this matter than his appetite; though a Norman; and the necessity proposed to be supplied, he affirms, is greater than hunger: in this he appeals for determination to the British ladies.

To shew the value of his remedy, he states the exigences of the case; and they are indeed deplorable: custom, more powerful than nature, has given birth to the disorder for which he offers his certain and never-failing remedy.

He appeals to all women, whether to be feen is not more necessary than to eat; whether twenty dishes may be compared with one opera; or all the parade of a defert to the twinkling lamp-light of Vauxhall? Of what

value

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value is a good face if it be kept at home, for the ad. miration perhaps of a husband? or what is the use of diamonds if they glitter only within the walls of her

proper habitation?

To be feen is to live; to be immured is a fort of breathing death; nothing better: and in order to be feen there occurs the fatal necflity which gave birth to his proposal. Are the chairmen sufficient to carry the lady abroad? no; they can only fet her down at the door of the rendezvous: the chariot? the same objection! Will the husband assist? no! - there must be a companiou, and a husband is nobody: that is the voice of every

married woman in the kingdom.

Here lies the necessity, and how is it to be remedied? There are people who can have companions; but fuch may as well remain at home: if the lady be handsome no woman alive will walk with her. Nay, without this objection, unless chance have disposed her and her ac. quaintance in the same quarter of the town, how are they to get out together? to the Summer-diversions very difficultly: to those of the Winter 'tis impossible. How often has a lady fent to every acquaintance in the world to accompany her to the play, where perhaps too he had an appointment; and to every one in vain: all engaged or lazy. They expect company, or they won't dress; or BARRY don't act, or they don't look well today! What distress! what disorder! As things stand at present no woman is mistress of herself; not even when she's married. They are reduced to buy tickets for a concert, and forge the name of captain somebody who fent them, or they must bespeak an acquaintance for the opera a month beforehand.

They must dine by one o' clock if they live in different places, for one must take up the other, that they may go in together. The Irish have their green rooms for the play, and tea rooms at affemblies, for the meeting of those who come fingly; and in France women go in like the lawless libertines alone: but we scorn to borrow customs from our neighbours; and from Paris we cannot descend to take any thing that is useful.

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She who would flame in the forehead of the glittering crowd at a ridotto, is immured, because none will be eclipsed by standing near her. She who amidst the tissues of a court would stand single, the precious stone set in the silver sea, leaves brass to shine where she could place the diamond: not willingly, for to be admired is to live: but none will shew the pale moon, where such

a fun appears.

This is the situation where the only objection is beauty: where character is concerned, 'tis over. She who has made one unhappy trip, nay, she who has but been supposed to make it (for at this time vice and scandal are one thing) must plunge into the crime and shame for ever. She must give such countenance as she can to those of reputations that destroy her own, for none will give her any. 'Tis impossible to live from public places; and 'tis as impossible for her to get any other companion to them.

This is the condition in which my artist represented the women of our country to stand according to the present state of things, and for which he proposed his remedy. Lords have their led captains, why not ladies their dependants of the same order? because there are

men who will do what women cannot.

Women can no more live in the world without a companion, than man could in paradife: no woman will be the convenience of another: to this he reduced the state of the case; and under this necessity he produced his art for the assistance.

He has been the disciple of Vaucanson, he had studied Des Cartes's philosophy; and he proposes to the ladies of Great Britain (for 'tis the only country in the world where they are wanted) to make a larger kind of

automatons.

As his master sabricated the little grocer of wood and wire, who at the command of his customers went into his shop, and brought out the tea, the coffee, or the chocolate they called for; he has made, and he brought with him, a very beautiful specimen of them, a set of ladies of the same materials. They can stand still, or walk; take hold of the arm, or let it go; roll their

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eyes, and make a curt'fy; as either of those motions may be convenient. These he presumes are all the qualifications necessary to a lady's companion in public. and these puppets he proposes to sell at a moderate rate to the women of beauty and accomplishments, that they may use them in the place of those human creatures with whom they commonly appear; and have them at their command at pleasure. It will not be necessary to engage this lady a month beforehand, because she will be the property of her owner; and she may be dressed over night, that there may be no waiting upon that account. By this means the Norman proposes to remedy all those inconveniences which at present keep the ladies from public; and to add a luftre to the British affemblies. He has also, ready made, some fine gentlemen of the fame materials, for ladies who will go to the price of them.

His art is that of *Prometheus*, but he has no intent of aiming at the prophane part of it. 'Tis sufficient for him to have made the women: he would not, if it were in his choice, give them life. He calls no vultures to his side; nor wishes to displease their Jupiter, or his customers.

As his women will perform all the offices of companions to ladies of virtue and discretion, he does not defire to give them their impertinences; and he humbly proposes them as rivals to those automatons of the same character, which ladies, when they can, carry about with them.

In the first place they will have just as much beauty as the owner pleases, for white and red will give them that as naturally as to life: and they will be foils in point of taste, because they may be dressed just as the lady pleases. The artist is sensible, that there are some among the living companions who have the rudiments of this complaisance: but he does not apprehend they push it quite so far as it may be carried in these. That for farther advantages, these ladies of his making will have no will, so that they'll not be impertinent on any occasion. They'll not want to sit when the lady had rather walk, or to walk when she's sitting: in short, they

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they will be perfectly free from that terrible female diforder the fidgets. They will have no eyes to fee, when it is proper they should be blind: no tongue to tell tales, or talk nonsense; no ears to hear a private discourse; nor obstinacy to stay when it is proper a companion should take her leave. They will do what they should, stay as long as they are wanted, and begone when they are inconvenient; and what would a reasonable woman desire more in a companion. In fine, they will shew to the world the existence of that paradox, a good woman with a head upon her shoulders; and if the lady desire the singular pleasure of tyrannising, they will be as humble as poor relations.

It is impossible I should fail to approve so useful a proposal. I have desired him to carry it largely into execution: but till a sufficient number of these ladies can be got in readiness, I would recommend it to my virgin readers to forget the condition of those who are willing to appear with them, and being gentlewomen, can do it with decency; and to those who are married, that they would venture abroad with their husbands: by that time they have seen the contempt with which the wise and virtuous treat them for this singularity, the puppets will certainly be ready to supply their places.



No. 26. Saturday, June 25th, 1757.

Servitus crescit novaMulta & præclara minantis.

HOR.

My

May it please Your Honour,

If I did not think myself a person of consequence to you, I should not trouble you with this epistle: but if you expect to continue your paper with success, you will find, by my history and qualifications, which I beg leave to lay before you, that I am very capable of serving both you and the public; provided your honour will please to confer upon me a certain place in your gift.

My father was a country clergyman, and greatly be. loved by his parishioners, for the just discharge of his duty. As his living was small, and his family large, he could not bestow a liberal education upon all his sons. I happening to have better parts than the rest, he singled me out for a scholar; and taught me the rudiments of grammar himself. I have nothing to blame him for, but his suffering me to go where I pleased: and play with the rabble of boys in his parish; by which means I early contracted such a rusticity of behaviour, and such habits of vice, as I cannot correct to this day.

At the age of eighteen I was sent to the university; where I sometimes got half a crown by making exercises for richer students than myself. I was ready at Latin, and by the other lads esteemed a poet: but I had sense enough to distinguish betwixt making of verses, and writing poetically. The learning which my sather instilled into me, was but little improved by my stay at the university: and though I there acquired some new habits, no better than my old ones, I still retained my original rusticity; kept company with the most disorderly students; and spent more time in gaming and drinking, than in studying. And thus happening to break some of the university statutes, I was, at about the age of twenty, unluckily dismissed; with the character of a gamester and a drunkard.

Upon quitting the university my father endeavoured to qualify me for a divine, by domestic instruction; but I had always a strong aversion to that profession, and in my own mind devoted myself to the law for which I was better qualified; as being a wrangler by nature, and now made a disputant by art. But, to please the old gentleman, I pretended to study the Bible; and stealing some passages out of sermons, and tacking them together, I shewed the result to my father, as my own composition; with which he seemed very well satisfied. But still continuing my old courses, when out of his sight; my enemies, at length, acquainted him with the dissolute life I led. He first threatened me with imprisonment; but instead of that, sent me to a foreign university, to finish

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finish my divinity studies, under an able professor of

his former acquaintance.

Here I continued two years, leading the same kind of life I had done at home; and herding chiefly with gentlemen of my own country; whom I assisted in various ways; and particularly in transcribing colleges for them, to supply my pocket-expences. Indeed I sometimes engaged too far in their quarrels; and can shew some marks of my services, by a cut I received in my sace, and a wound in my sword-arm. Making but little progress in divinity, I was remanded back to England; improved with a smattering of French. Upon my arrival at London, I received the melancholy news that my sather was dead.

Being, therefore, obliged to depend entirely upon myself, I settled in town; and sometimes wrote a pamphlet for the booksellers: but finding their pay insufficient to support me in my savourite diversions; and happening, under promise of marriage, to have a child by my laundress, I resolved to alter my condition; and set up

for an instructor of youth in private families.

Unable to procure testimonials of my character, or tolerable letters of recommendation, I was glad to accept of any family that would receive me; and accordingly lived successively with a grocer, a curate, and a country-gentleman; whose sons I instructed in French and Latin. But, for being too familiar with the grocer's maid, and the curate's daughter, I was soon dismissed their services; where indeed I lived little better than a sootman.

I was somewhat more fortunate with the countrygentleman, for I lived with him more than a year; till
happening one day to drink a little too much, whilst we
were out a hunting I fell from my horse, and broke
my leg; which being ill set, I made so limping a figure,
that I was obliged to return to London; for my leg not
healing, and my body breaking out in blotches, I wanted
the assistance of a good surgeon on more accounts than
one. Being, upon my recovery, lest in great distress,
I married my cast-off laundress, to keep my promise
with her. But she proving a vixen, a jilt and a gindrinker, I am now more wretched than ever; and want

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again to change my fituation. Several gentlemen frequent her; and among the rest, to increase my misery, an university chum of mine; who, to do him justice. excels in gilding vice and in writing novels, which wonderfully please the booksellers, and hit the reigning taste of the times. I envy him, as a more successful author than myself; and hate him, for his intimacy with my wife.

To relieve me from these unsupportable troubles and vexations, and enable me, at length, to do fome good in the world, I humbly pray your honour to appoint me your moral purveyor; and provide me with an als and a cart for the purpose. I am so well qualified for the post, that I cannot suspect you will refuse it me: especially as you may reap some fruits of my labours.

By the tenour of your papers, you aim at correcting the vices of the age; and changing drofs into gold. In this undertaking I may prove an useful affiftant, by collecting the false coin, the debased metal and dross of the human species; and bringing it to your honour's refining-house, to be remelted, new moulded, and meliorated. At least, my course of life intitles me to ask this employment: for I am bred a gentleman, and become a proficient in the fashionable vices. I hope my marrying below my dignity, and being abused by my wife, will be no hindrance to my promotion. I have kept good company, both abroad and at home; and ftill frequently meet them at night-houses, &c. which shews me, that some of them only differ from the vulgar in external appearance, and are no better than drofs internally. One night or other, a lucky run of the dice will give me a qualification to make as shining a figure as they do; and enable me to thank you in a proper manner for my post. In the mean time, as I am acquainted with the principal places of public refort in town, I shall not want for loading.

My defign is, by degrees, to clear the capital of its moral rubbish; and as the town empties, to follow the best company into the country. That I may not interfere with the penny-post, the general post, or the

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news-men, I propose to receive no parcel, that does not

outweigh a pound.

That the persons whom I take in may ride commodiously, my cart shall be furnished with seats across, like a caravan. And as I may sometimes happen to have too much loading for one cart, your honour will give me a discretional power of employing another, occasionally.

This being only the rough-draught of my proposal, I doubt not, upon reconsidering it, and joining experience with my theory, of making many great and useful im-

provements in it.

I hope to afford the world a fair opportunity of getting rid of its tools and implements of vice; which my cart shall make a halt in every street to receive. Any one person in a family need only to have his bundle ready, against I call for it. But as it might blast my design in the bud, to set out with an empty cart; in failure of better loading, my wife and my chum might have the first ride in it.

Dimidium facti, qui bene cepit, habet.

If my petition be granted, I promise to serve your honour with the utmost industry and sidelity; and verily believe you will not repent of your generosity. In full expectation of a favourable answer, I subscribe myself

Your Honour's

most devoted, and most humble servant,

VICE CARTER.

P. S. My cart, upon due notice given, might, in imitation of my cousin-germans, the gold-finders, wait at the doors of persons of fashion, to take in a loading privately, about two in the morning, when the prying vulgar are assep. But I submit the conduct and regulation of every thing to you; and shall punctually follow your private instructions.

I so far approve of this project, as hereby to permit Mr. Carter the liberty of trying how he can execute it; and should be glad to find him as serviceable as he proposes. I expressly order, that his cart be closely covered, to keep his goods invisible; and prevent the least injury from happening to any of them. I likewise charge him, inviolably to conceal the names, not only of the person, or persons, to whom the parties and parcels belong; but also of those who deliver them to him. To execute his office well, he must act with the utmost caution; and hurt no living creature. On these conditions, I wish him better success in his new employment, than he has deserved in his old ones.



No. 27. Tuesday, June 28th, 1757.

Fugienda petimus.

SENECA.

IT is an observation of Sir William Temple, that France appeared in his time designed for greater at chievements and empires than had been seen in Christendom since that of Charlemaign. But he lived a great while ago.

He founded his affertion on five things, 1. The greatness of their land-forces. 2. The growth of those at sea. 3. The courage of their officers. 4. The conduct of their ministers. And, 5. The remissions of

those who should oppose them.

This might be plaufible in his days, but things are altered greatly for the better, every body knows: such observations might then wear a face of terror; but when we compare these several articles at that time with their condition now, certainly there can be nothing in them worthy to throw the bold Briton into a consternation.

But though we need not at present condescend to sear the conquests of France, in the literal and ordinary way, there is another method, whereby they seem attacking No. sus; an afpect fruct their our of universe frence cafuil worn conquired.

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ng 8; us; and this its progress threatens the very name and aspect of the bold rough Briton, with an entire destruction. This is the introduction of their language, their manners and their habit. If, after another age, our descendants should, as seems very probable, speak universally the French tongue, and appear only in the French habit; uniting with these French heads and French hearts, whether we should in that case be Britons, or Frenchmen inhabiting England, I shall leave to greater casuists: certainly the dress and language of one country, worn and spoken in another, are the great marks of conquest.

The French are cunning: they have weapons of various kinds for different purpoles; while they are cutting us down with swords in the distant America, they will be snipping and twisting us into subjection here with sheers and curling-irons: while our countrymen in that quarter are subdued by their soldiers; we shall be conquered by their hair-cutters and taylors. This is the danger of Britain: and it is but justice to our age and country to replace with these articles those obsolete and idle means from which the statesmen of another period feared

the liberty of Britain.

The head-dress of our fathers is shrunk up before the unmerciful scissars of this new and foreign generation: there seems to be a law throughout the kingdom, that none shall look like a gentleman or a man, except a lord chief justice or a lord chancellor; and if one looks into the court particularly, half a dozen exceptions among the nobility of the last age are all we see. One would suppose the king of Great Britain were surrounded in his own apartments by foreigners; and often that there had passed some act that none but French should be admitted, except my good lord chamberlain.

These people seem in this article to have tried how far they could disgrace the human countenance, and see us follow them. The origin of their present fashion is from a print of Job and his tempters by one of their great engravers, in which the devil has his hair thrown

back in the height of the new tafte.

I so far approve of this project, as hereby to permit Mr. Garter the liberty of trying how he can execute it; and should be glad to find him as serviceable as he proposes. I expressly order, that his cart be closely covered, to keep his goods invisible; and prevent the least injury from happening to any of them. I likewise charge him, inviolably to conceal the names, not only of the person, or persons, to whom the parties and parcels belong; but also of those who deliver them to him. To execute his office well, he must act with the utmost caution; and hurt no living creature. On these conditions, I wish him better success in his new employment, than he has deserved in his old ones.



No. 27. Tuesday, June 28th, 1757.

Fugienda petimus.

SENECA.

It is an observation of Sir William Temple, that France appeared in his time designed for greater at chievements and empires than had been seen in Christendom since that of Charlemaign. But he lived a great while ago.

He founded his affertion on five things, 1. The greatness of their land-forces. 2. The growth of those at sea. 3. The courage of their officers. 4. The conduct of their ministers. And, 5. The remissues of

those who should oppose them.

This might be plausible in his days, but things are altered greatly for the better, every body knows: such observations might then wear a face of terror; but when we compare these several articles at that time with their condition now, certainly there can be nothing in them worthy to throw the bold Briton into a consternation.

But though we need not at present condescend to sear the conquests of France, in the literal and ordinary way, there is another method, whereby they seem attacking us; as afpect fruct their our connivers frence cafuil worn conque

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ing us; us; and this its progress threatens the very name and aspect of the bold rough Briton, with an entire destruction. This is the introduction of their language, their manners and their habit. If, after another age, our descendants should, as seems very probable, speak universally the French tongue, and appear only in the French habit; uniting with these French heads and French hearts, whether we should in that case be Britons, or Frenchmen inhabiting England, I shall leave to greater casuists: certainly the dress and language of one country, worn and spoken in another, are the great marks of conquest.

The French are cunning: they have weapons of various kinds for different purpoles; while they are cutting us down with swords in the distant America, they will be snipping and twisting us into subjection here with sheers and curling-irons: while our countrymen in that quarter are subdued by their soldiers; we shall be conquered by their hair-cutters and taylors. This is the danger of Britain: and it is but justice to our age and country to replace with these articles those obsolete and idle means from which the statesmen of another period feared

the liberty of Britain.

The head-dress of our fathers is shrunk up before the unmerciful scissars of this new and foreign generation: there seems to be a law throughout the kingdom, that none shall look like a gentleman or a man, except a lord chief justice or a lord chancellor; and if one looks into the court particularly, half a dozen exceptions among the nobility of the last age are all we see. One would suppose the king of Great Britain were surrounded in his own apartments by foreigners; and often that there had passed some act that none but French should be admitted, except my good lord chamberlain.

These people seem in this article to have tried how far they could disgrace the human countenance, and see us follow them. The origin of their present fashion is from a print of Job and his tempters by one of their great engravers, in which the devil has his hair thrown

back in the height of the new tafte.

They

They have removed the pocket, which decorated the knee of our grave ancestors, by several stages to the side; and have taught us to carry hats that cannot be worn, because in their country there are certain seasons in which it does not rain.

A few years fince they made us pye-bald to the neglect of our own manufactures; and as foon as our own people had learned to make those velvets, we were commanded by 'em not to wear them. We obeyed. We have not the courage to put on a pair of breeches till we are assured they are wore in Paris, upon the honour of our valets; and a taylor who does not speak French is not qualified for his business.

Our tyrants, for in this respect we must acknowledge ourselves conquered, were, I remember, this time two years, wantonly cruel: they lest us to ourselves till we had cloathed for the Summer in white; and then sent over the edict that we should appear in green. A puppet used formerly to be the engine sent on these occasions; at the time I am speaking of, it was an *********, any

thing of wood and wire will ferve.

Such is the perfect subservience of the British spirit to their lords and sovereigns in dress the French, that no sooner they understood green to be the Paris-colour than they were metamorphosed. Ask the first man why? For what reason that particular colour!——Sir, its the king of France's hunting uniform. A glorious reason! How worthy a thought for the free Briton to glory in wearing the King of France's livery.

Pursue your questions, and the answers are all equal.

Have you been in France? — Who has not?

Did you bunt with the king? — oh upon an elephant with the cham of Tartary? — But let us suppose the man had been there, and had joined that most pompous cavalcade, would it not have been more to his honour not to have worn the uniform. Sure it is the credit of a Briton, among a herd of French, to be distinguished, not to be consounded with them. Would he not wish instead of looking like themselves, to be shewn with the pointed singer — that's an English man; a countryman of their CUMBERLANDS, or.

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He who can desire to give up that superiority, is in his heart a Frenchman.

If it were mean to wear this particular dress there, how much more to bring it home, to strut upon English

ground in a French badge of servitude.

They say in arts we improve what we adopt. Twere well were it as true among the valuable as it is in these. We have found the way to add meaning and distinction to that which in its proper country was but the acknowledgement of universal slavery. At first, when we met one of these dapper foresters, one asked, is this the green man-of Epping or of Tyburn road, and the laugh went no farther: now we are to judge whether he be friend or enemy to his country by the colour; and 'tis a reslection surely on the wearer, and the object of his distinction, that the livery of the French king is become the badge of attachment to the English court.

The green man on our fign-posts, its proper situation, has been used to bear three senses; that of a Savageman, that of a huntsman, and from some good old story,

that of a dy'd man.

The sense of our green man is quite changed: and, in the common way, to its opposite. It no longer expresses a forester or savage; 'tis the character of the most decent and most civilised creature among mankind, the beau.

According to his genius or his fortune, this gentle animal decorates and embellishes it with the cord, the buttonhole, the lace or the embroidery: but here his understanding is not able to break through the difficulty. Shall he wear the ornaments in gold, to shew his attachment to the yellow orange, or in silver to compliment the white horse of Hanover.

The gardeners have a striped rose; they call this, because the red and white are both in it, the York and Lancaster; happy shall he be who first upon his French coat wears the silver lace to the gold buttonhole, and calls himself the Hanover and Orange.

To such an height this ambition of dress is carried by these bastard English, that a true Briton would almost wish wish to see his countrymen reduced to the painted bodies of their honest ancestors; though he who has taste would perhaps advise the ladies to have themselves adored by

declining even that ornament.

If we would receive such a fashion, how gallant a sight would it be to face a body of French forces with our former victories on our breasts; a Marlborough should conquer them an age after his death; and they would drop their swords before the representation of a Ramillies. It may be useful to commemorate great successes every way; but I only propose these for the present; we may displace them when we have gained such others.



No. 28. Saturday, July 2d, 1757.

____this is worshipful society.

SHAKE.

WO former letters from a relation of mine, dated from Bath, having been very well received by the public, I shall without further preface lay before them a third, written by the same gentleman from his seat in the country.

COVERLEY-HALL, June the 24th, 1757.

To the CENTINE L.

DEAR COUSIN,

I Was favoured with your obliging answer to my two last letters at Bath, some time before I lett that place, but finding nothing worth your notice more than what I had communicated, I deferred the satisfaction of writing to you again, till I could have more leisure, than the dissipation of that scene affords, to address my-felf a third time to so respectable person. I arrived here a few weeks ago from midnight revels and pale saces.

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to green fields, shady walks, and the healthful-painted cheeks of country milk maids. As I have the greatest reverence for the memory of my benefactor, your good old friend Sir ROGER DE COVERLEY, I continued, after my father's death, not only all the old fervants I found in the service, till they dropt off one by one, like mellow fruit, but preserved likewise a veneration for the old house, old furniture, old walks and old cultoms, which the good knight used so much to delight in : every thing therefore continues here in the same situation it was in during the visit of your great predecessor, the SPECTATOR, which he fo ingeniously and naturally describes in the 106th, and several of the following numbers of that immortal performance, but alas! though every thing (as far as the nature of things are capable of being preserved by human assiduity) is still in statu que, most of the old domesticks have followed their ever-honoured mafter, during my absence abroad, and very few even of the tenants or neighbouring gentlemen are alive now who flourished at that memorable æra: instead of the honest chaplain who used to preach the bishop of St. Alaph's and Tillotion's fermons, I found upon my return from travel a finical young coxcomb, whom my guardians had presented to the living in my absence, who talked every Sunday from the pulpit half an hour, a parcel of unintelligible stuff, which it seems he retailed from a book just published, tending to prove that the omission of the doctrine of future rewards and punishments was an indication of a divine mission; the leisure hours of this young champion in divinity. I found upon enquiry, were fpent, not in composing the differences among his poor parishioners, as were those of his predecessor, but in promoting difputes among his superiors, and writing things of five acts which he called tragedies, and then modestly citing MILTON and one af the fathers as an apologetical example for his own practice. I find the WIDOW. notwithstanding her fine hand, has many years ago bid this world good night; WILL WIMBLE lies under a grave stone of his own sculpture; and most of the cotemporaries of that filent gentleman who was in Wor-N of the Spectator.

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cestershire in the year 1711, now rest in some church or church-yard in the neighbourhood of this village; but their sons, nephews or grand-sons still perpetuate the old names; among others, a gentleman not far from Coverley does much honour to his samily, and that is Sir John Winble, the very identical nephew of WILL WIMBLE, who is mentioned in a letter to Sir ROGER, by that memorable mechanic, as being an Eaton scholar and taking to his learning hugely.

Sir JOHN, the present baronet, is turned of fifty. feven, who after having fpent most of his time in the world, as a man both of business and pleasure, is now retired to his feat in Worcestershire to pass away the remainder in repose and acts of benevolences here this truly worthy English gentleman bewails the present fym proms of the approaching diffolution of this once flourishing kingdom, which appear in the dissipated lives, the unregulated expences, depraved appetites, and abandoned profligacy that rages through all ranks of people. As I shall have occasion perhaps to mention this gentleman in my future correspondence with you, I thought it not improper to give you this short sketch of so valuable a character; a few days ago I had the pleasure to accompany the good baronet to a weekly meeting of the neighbouring gentlemen and clergy at a bowlinggreen in his own parish, kept by one of his old fervants, now dignified by being the father of a large family and churchwarden for the year; as I never had been at one of these rural assemblies I must confess I had no small curiofity to fatisfy, for a true country fquire or country parfon were animals that I was as much unacquainted with as a rhinoceros or an elephant; accordingly, on the day appointed, I called upon my worthy introductor, and having left my equipage at his house we walked over the church yard, and croffed the mill-bridge, and two little closes to the place of weekly rendezvous; as we approached to the stile I perceived a reverend perfonage of about twenty stone weight, leaning over the uppermost bar, who prefenting us with a very roly countenance, fomewhat less than half an acre in circumnotif is it to emiference,

See the 108th number of the SPECTATOR.

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ference, congratulated both us and himself that we were come at last; "for, sir John (added he) had you "stayed one quarter longer all the fat would have been "roasted away, and 'tis the loveliest haunch we have "seen this season, 'twas a good buck, and died well."

I found by this that I had really been in a great meafure the innocent cause of spoiling a very lovely part of an animal, who, I fancied, had lived a good life, becanfe a reverend pattor affured us in verbo facerdotis that he died well. Upon enquiring of my guide who this refpectable figure was, he whifpered me that it was doctor TURTLE, who about three years ago had been presented by Magdalen-college, Oxford, to a very good living in the neighbourhood; that indeed the doctor was by no means concerned in the Achaian league, or any other Grecian plot whatever, nor had he much concerns with the old Romans, but in lieu of all that, he was the best bowlet upon the green, was an incomparable judge of venison, fish, and wild fowl; kept a leash of the best grey-hounds in the county, and was very well verfed in fir HARRY SPELMAN's book, concerning the divine right of tyther. I found afterwards, that in confequence of fuch accomplishments, the doctor was the very first upon the green lift of subscribers, and that all disputes upon the turf were decided by his judgement, from whence there was no appeal. Having by this time reached a little tent that was occasionally pitched in one corner of the green, for the accommodation of the bowlers, I was presented to all the club then present, one by one, and a little scrip of dirty parchment being handed down to me I enrolled my name among these worthies; after which ceremony we were summoned to dinner by doctor TURTLE, who had been, ever fince his first accosting us, superintending the abovementioned haunch of venison in the kitchen. The good rector having taken his place in the great elbow chair at the upper end of the table as perpetual prefident of the club. I being a stranger, and a newly initiated member was by the general suffrage of the company placed at his right hand, after which the rest took their seats without much ceremony. For the first quarter of an hour N 2 nothing nothing was faid but, pray fir give me a little more fat ; 'tis finely roafted-Mr. SENTRY let me help you-some more, fir, of the white mufcle-and fuch like very pertinent fentences : but the edge of appetite being a little taken off by a serious and constant application of knife and fork to the fat, and the brown as well as the white muscle, my spiritual neighbour, who had been hitherto very bufily employed in the flesh, began to ask me seve. ral questions about my travels, to all which I answered in a manner as I thought would give him most pleasure, and indeed I had such success in my endeavours to accommodate my discourse to the relish of this great man of the place, that I presently found I began to be no inconsiderable favourite; in confirmation of which, before the cloth was taken away, he addressed himself to me in the following manner. " Mr. SENTRY I find " you are not only a very fenfible observant man, but " likewise you seem to understand what is due to the " clergy, therefore I will entrust you with a secret worth an empire." You may be sure I made proper acknowledgments for fuch a favour, and after having expressed repeated affurances that I would never be ungrateful, the well dew lapped divine taking me by the hand continued, " the fecret, my dear fir, is this; to every three mouthfuls you eat, drink a glass of wine, " and you will eat as much again. This, Mr. SENTRY. was told me many, very many years ago by a fenior " fellow of our college, who died about twenty years " fince of an apoplexy, and lies buried in our cloifters. " He was a great man, Mr. SENTRY, but we are all " mortal; therefore, as the text says, let us eat and " drink, for to-morrow we die." I must confess I never faw any preacher give a better example to his precept than the doctor had done to this last scripture exhortation. As foon as dinner was over, we adjourned again to the green, where lots having decided who were to enter the lifts first, and likewise who and who were to be friends and antagonists, the champions having stripped into their waistcoats, and substituted handkerchiefs of a week's wear in the room of their wigs under their hats, the rest of the company withdrew into the tent to tobacco, No

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tobaceo, strong beer, and observation both upon the contenders at bowls and the present contenders for power in the administration. Whilst two warm partymen of different sides were in violent dispute about what neither was acquainted with or interested in, I took an opportunity of writing out a copy of the lift of the prefent year's subscribers, which (though you are at present unacquainted with the gentlemen therein mentioned) I have taken the liberty to fend you, as in a future letter I may in all probability delineate most of their different characters; a thing you cannot expect me to do at prefent. The lift runs thus: doctor RALPH TURTLE, justice FLOOD, fir JOHN WIMBLE, 'fquire TADPOLE, alderman SQUAT, doctor JALLAP, a physician, Mr. RHEUBARB, an apothecary, counsellor LEATHER-HEAD, besides nine parsons, Your attorneys, an half-pay captain of foot, the two representatives of an adjoining borough, who never come, the high sheriff, and your humble fervant. When the affembly broke up my good friend fir JOHN pressed me very warmly to finish the day at his house, but the evening being very fine, and Coverly not above four miles ride, I made my excuses and returned home, ruminating, according to custom, on the characters I had that day feen, particularly on that of my new friend the rector.

But before I close my letter, I cannot omit mentioning that I was agreeably surprised in my way home to see the very sign of the Saracen's head, which was originally intended (as we are informed by the SPECTATOR) by the father of my present tenant, for the head of old sir ROGER, and converted by the worthy knight's own order into the present gam countenance by the addition of a very enormous pair of black whiskers, which said pair of black whiskers have been washed down by six and forty winters rains all over the cheeks of the said baronet-saracen, or saracen-baronet, which you will. When you next write, I should be obliged to you if you would inform me, whether the report in the country is true, that the register-office in the Strand has been applied to for persons pro-

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perly qualified to manage political affairs. I am, dear coufin, with the profoundest respect,

Your most obliged

and affectionate kinsman,

ROGER COVERLEY SENTRY.



No. 29.

Tuesday, July 5th, 1757.

Magna Sonaturum.

THE planet Venus, under its several names of Phospher and Lucifer, the Evening and the Morning STAR, has surnished the poets with many beautiful allusions; but there is not one of them who has used it so boldly or so happily as the prophet Isaiah. He has compared the splendor of the king of Babylon to the lustre of that star eclipsing all the lesser sovereigns, and expressed his destruction by its fall from heaven.

Mr. Mason, a poet who would have been diftinguished in an age more fertile of genius than the present, has taken this passage, and some others, from the same chapter of the prophet, for the soundation of an ode, which he entitles, on the sate of tyranny. With what transport must be, who has not read the Bible, go through the beautiful stanza, wherein the elegant English writer has paraphrased this sublime and happy thought of the Hebrew.

O Lucifer, thou orient star
That roll'd the morning's rosy car
Refulgent thro' th' atherial way,
How art thou fall'n, thou son of light!
How fall'n from thy meridian height.

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I have limited the rapture of admiration to those who have not read the Bible, for to such as retain the original, this passage elegant as it is, must appear in the utmost degree poor, mean and dispirited. To roll the chariot of the morning is a very sine image; the epithet rosy is perseally elegant; and resulgent and atherial are delicate and well chosen words: there are, therefore, in this stanza of the modern poet, all the beauties of language, words the most happily selected, and most musically arranged; but it is in the original we must look for the sublimity of the thought. What majesty is there in this short sentence! How art thou sallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the Morning!

These are the words of Scripture, and they are such that it is impossible to alter them but for the worse.

What is all the finished elegance of this celebrated poet's phrase, compared with the simple dignity of this plain and great expression! what his orient star to ISAIAH'S son of the Morning! This version is not by many the first, but it is one of the strongest instances our language has afforded how idle are all attempts to

paraphrase the language of the Scriptures.

It were unjust to name this author, especially as it may here appear to be done with some degree of censure, without faying fomething farther of the odes, among which this on the fate of tyranny is published. Their subjects are extremely different, and they are all consummately elegant. It is become a fashion to study the language of odes more than of any other species of poetry: and it is no more than justice to fay every thing that is graceful, finished and harmonious, is found in these; they abound with images, and those of the most striking kind; and they are varied with the most lively and the most happily chosen descriptions. The apostrophe of MILTON in the first ode, which is to Memory, is extremely fine and just: the second is to Independency; and this, after some elegant phrase to the author's patron the earl of HOLDERNESS, concludes with a happy thought from the mouth of Indepency,

Who calls thee his, yet makes thee mine.

In this ode there is a very beautiful and lively image of the Moon, seen upon the surface of the Humber,

As you chafte orb along this ample tide Draws the long lustre of her silver line.

The heart must have no feeling either to poetry or patriot virtue that is not charmed with his honourable

mention of old ANDREW MARVELL.

Indeed one great article of this poet's praise is that he dares give it to another; not to the dead alone, but to one who is living, and whom others look on as his rival, the author of the Church-yard Elegy. We have a strong and noble instance of this free spirit in the third ode, the subject of which is Melancholy.

Thro' this lone valley let me stray,
Wrapt in some strain of pensive GRAY;
Whose losty genius bears along
The conscious dignity of song;
And scorning from the sacred store
To waste a note on pride or pow'r,
Roves when the glimm'ring twilight glooms
And warbles thro' the rustic tombs.

In this ode the image of the Ivy chaining the flower that make some martyr's monument is extremely beautiful; nor can any description excel that of the pale retreat

Where drops the little weeping rill Soft tinkling down the moss grown hill.

The beauties of language, imagery and description, are this author's in an eminent degree; but in the old on tyranny, which is the fourth and last in this collection, we have another instance of the force and greatness there is in a plain thought expressed in the most unornamented words, superior to all the additions of language Mr. Mason putting into his elegant language the expressions of the prophet, when men see the tyrant fallen, says

Is this the man whose nod Shook kingdoms? whose inexorable rod, &c.

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ISAIAH on this occasion uses these plain and much more majestic words,

Is this the man that made the earth to tremble!

This and the former are two instances, out of thousands, that shew the superiority the Bible (even in the English translation, far as it is from equal to the

original) has over all other writings.

With all the harmony not only of Mr. MASON'S, but of most other late odes, there is a dearth of meaning; with all the florid and redundant beauties of description, there is a barrenness of thought. When we read them we are pleased; and when they are this author's odes, the oftener we read them the more we are pleased; but when we have read them a thousand times we are not improved; they serve barely to amuse (the meanest purpose of writing.) Of all that has so strongly affected, nothing remains with us.

If it be true, as LONGINUS has affirmed, that the strongly imprinting things on the reader's memory is one great character of sublimity, sure this accuses the modern odes of a deficiency in one of the essential articles

of that composition.

If I may run from these modern writings very far back into antiquity, I shall produce PINDAR, as one whose language and whose thought and manner cannot be said to rival indeed, for nothing can rival the Scriptures, but of all poetry the most to resemble them. There is in him the fire of imagination, and this great simplicity of language. His thought is majestic in the highest degree, and his numbers are often rude, and always irregular. 'Twas then a species of writing above the limitation of that polished elegance which is now made its character.

HORACE introduced among the Latins this delicate care of founds: his

Quem tu, Melpomene-

is an instance of it; but with this softness and smooth elegance he preserved often, if not constantly, the dignity of thought that characterized the original.

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This and the former are two instances, out of thousands, that shew the superiority the Bible (even in the English translation, far as it is from equal to the

original) has over all other writings.

With all the harmony not only of Mr. MASON'S, but of most other late odes, there is a dearth of meaning; with all the florid and redundant beauties of description, there is a barrenness of thought. When we read them we are pleased; and when they are this author's odes, the oftener we read them the more we are pleased; but when we have read them a thousand times we are not improved; they serve barely to amuse (the meanest purpose of writing.) Of all that has so strongly affected, nothing remains with us.

If it be true, as LONGINUS has affirmed, that the strongly imprinting things on the reader's memory is one great character of sublimity, sure this accuses the modern odes of a deficiency in one of the essential articles

of that composition.

If I may run from these modern writings very farback into antiquity, I shall produce PINDAR, as one whose language and whose thought and manner cannot be said to rival indeed, for nothing can rival the Scriptures, but of all poetry the most to resemble them. There is in him the fire of imagination, and this great simplicity of language. His thought is majestic in the highest degree, and his numbers are often rude, and always irregular. 'Twas then a species of writing above the limitation of that polished elegance which is now made its character.

HORACE introduced among the Latins this delicate care of founds: his

Quem tu, Melpomene-

is an instance of it; but with this softness and smooth elegance he preserved often, if not constantly, the dignity of thought that characterized the original.

The

The language of the Bible has not been enough confidered, indeed not enough regarded; else it would have been found in many neglected instances truly and justly harmonious. The Hebrew is often in these places else gantly constructed; and even in our translation the writers have in many passages, without considering or perhaps knowing it, been carried away by the spirit and sound of the original into a kind of measure.

This is evident in the two passinges I have quoed here from Isaiah; the first, describing the terrible and precipitate fall of the king of Babylon, runs all in dactils to the last foot, which terminates it happily as a spondee; nor could any measure or quantity have heen devised more proper for such an expression than these sive dactils and that concluding soot of graver measure. On the other hand, the latter passing marking the sad change of his state, a heap of dust for a king of Babylon, moves in one grave and equal pace, and that altogether different from the sormer.

I have readers who are not acquainted with the terms that name our feet in verse; but these will perteive the propriety of the measure in either place; they will find these words run off the tongue which describes the fall of the tyrant, and that those move slowly which

represent him fallen.

We see in these instances the difference between the prophet and the poet: they were once called by the same name, and with reason, when the prophet was no more inspired than the poet, for they were then alike. In these instances we see they differ toto celo: it is the difference between natural and superior powers, Genius and Inspiration.



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No. 30. Saturday, July 9th, 1757.

O (quam te memorem!) virgo: namque haud tibi vultus Mortalis, nec vox hominem fonat. O dea, certe; An Phæbi foror, an nympharum fanguinis una? Sis fælix, nostrumque leves quæcumque laborem.

VIRGILIA TO WINDOW! did the even refule to exercit

Touthe CENTINE L. minalans and

indifferences of her fix forbide his application and

Cannot help expressing my concern to you on account of the little encouragement given to the sons and daughters of Harmony, who, at this melancholy period of national distress, kindly exert their melodious talents to banish care and anxiety from the foreboding thoughts of gloomy Britons.

Music and Singing are certainly divine perfections; they excite the mind to commendable operations and moral virtues; they restrain irregular desires, asswage

forrow and inspire courage. might com a tody-to-to-notified

By the virtue of the Dorian measure a mulician of old preserved the chastity of CLYTEMNESTRA, the wife of AGAMEMNON, from the folicitations of ÆGISTHUS, who slew him out of revenge: by the soft Lydian notes the antients were moved to pleasure and dissipation; and by the bold Doric sounds they were roused to valiant deeds of arms.

They were both held in high estimation by the wise and holy men of old: DAVID appointed four masters to superintend the hymns and songs; and AMBROSE, bishop of Milan, when he was watching in the church with other pious men, for sear of the Arians, introduced Singing to remove the solicitude of tediousness: and we are assured, from undoubted authority, that the holy assemblies in the Eastern parts did, from the very beginning, use Singing.

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I own that it grieves me to reflect that an excellence of such use and antiquity should, in our days, be so much slighted and disregarded: and it brings tears into my eyes whenever I read the humiliant advertisement of the incomparable MINGOTTI.*

What a disgrace it is to the present times that a lady of her exquisite merit should publicly complain for the want of that indulgence which she tells you has been always shewn to her predecessors? what a mark of British ingratitude to put her to the blush of solicitation, instead of being forward to anticipate her wishes?

Has not the warbling Seignora held the polite world by the ears all the Winter? did she ever refuse to exert the enchanting melody of her voice but when the natural indispositions of her sex forbade her appearance, and obliged her to squawl at home somewhat out of tune? When accidents of this fort happened did she not graciously condescend to give public notice of her incapacity, and from day to day cram the news papers with apologies and expossulations?

But, notwithstanding all this good nature and humility, how ungratefully and cruelly has she been treated? not to mention the shock her delicacy must receive at being obliged to address the public in the form of a petitioner—what a mortifying circumstance must it be to her to be drawn about the streets in a plain chariot and pair, while Lucy, who has a voice like a raven, rolls about in a fine lacquered carriage fit to make an appearance at an ambassador's public entry?

For my own part I cannot help considering the lovely MINGOTTI as something more than woman: when I hear the thrilling notes of this ravishing warbler I cannot persuade myself that the sounds are mortal; I can think of nothing less than a goddess in a romance; and was I to contrive an equipage for this harmonious divinity, it should be a splendid vehicle formed in the shape of a shell, richly embossed with all kinds of musical instruments, and drawn by linnets and nightingales yoaked together with siddle-strings.

to Bulles to the Hallern parts did, from the very

^{*} A finger in the Italian operas. Slu. .geina?

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But, to the great shame of Britons, not only the music of this quavering enchantress, but the instrumental melody of her brother in harmony, have been, though equally applauded, yet equally unrewarded. For I do not find that the incomparable fir John Gigardini,* the most renowned knight of the most noble order of the fiddle-string, with his matchless merit, is yet in a capacity to drive a set of bays, or that he is likely to obtain a patent of peerage; so that he still remains greater than peers, yet less.

Now the Winter entertainments are at an end, thrice happy are those fortunate people of fashion whom these darlings of Apollo and the Muses will condescend to visit at their country seats, and help them to dissipate the tedium of the Summer season. Blest with such company they may leave the wild notes of the seathered choiristers to vulgar ears, while, in the shady bower or cooling grott, they thrill with extacy at the more ravishing

founds of scientific harmony! he was a least to less

The charms of Music are better felt than described. ORPHEUS, the samous musician of old, by his commanding lyre made the beasts tame, and the trees dance before him; and where would be the wonder if the modern ORPHEUS should, by his enchanting solo, draw a woman of fashion into his arms, and, as the offspring of a silent duet, bless posterity with an infant Handel?

But to those who have not an opportunity of hearing these excelling Italian artists, it will be no small entertainment to listen to our own home-spun warblers and musicians who are perched up in the several orchestras of Ranelagh, Vauxhall and Marybone. In these days of national calamity and ill success, when we have not so much as a bonsire or a single peal of bell-ringing for all the millions we pay; when, instead of one Englishman beating two Frenchmen, the monsieurs have drubbed us every where even-handed; in the midst of all these discouragements and disasters it is some comfort, however, to hear a good song for our money: and we are greatly obliged to Mr. Lowe for his kind advertisement,

* A celebrated performer on the violin.

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quainting the public that his voice still retains all its

Though Music and Singing are undonbtedly more practised than they over were in this nation, yet, from the little encouragement given to the artists, they are not so generally esteemed as it might be wished. We use Music indeed in our churches and in the field of battle; and I do not see why they may not be made equally serviceable in all private and public assemblies. One Archytas, a Grecian, invented a musical instrument which checked the irregular sallies of imagination and silenced impertinence. An instrument of this kind would be highly useful at Westminster-hall, at political coffee-houses, and at all oratorial meetings.

When a conceited rhetorician is hurried away by the impetuofity of verbose nonsense, what an agreeable triumph it would be to strike him dumb, and put him to the blush without saying a word! and what a vast deal of trouble it would save the chairman in all clubs and societies, if he could keep the members within the limits of sense and decency without satiguing his lungs by calling them—to order! to order! But I refer these hints to your consideration, and am,

SIR,

your constant reader

and humble servant;

PHILHARMONICOS.

INTELLIGENCE to illustrate the above.

THE 12th of last May The Suspicious Husband, Ranger by Mr. Garrick, was performed at the theatre in Drury-lane, the profits of which were given by the patentees to be applied to the use of the Marine-society: a very noble donation that speaks for itself more forceably than words can describe: but what shall we say to the taste, the benevolence and patriot spirit of our people of quality, who were so far from being emulous in filling the house that some of the side boxes were almost empty, while at Mingotti's benefit they were riding

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riding upon one another's backs for the encouragement of a woman whose merit is vox & preterea nihil, where they seemed attentive to sounds for which sew of them have taste, and listening to a language which scarcely one in fifty undersand. We are assured that, upon comparing the receipts of each of these benefits, the ballance in savour of the sing-song sair was upwards of 4001. What an honour is this to the nation!

We are assured that lord Lighthead, lady Arabella Sonata, colonel Drawl, and several other people of the sirst distinction, have opened a subscription for the support of several French coaks, German butlers, and other foreign gentlemen servitors, who have been discarded, or are now actually out of place, for having worn their masters cloaths, stole their linen, pursoined their wine, and picked their pockets when drunk, and such other tristing offences which it would be the utmost rudeness to punish; it would, moreover, stamp upon the prosecutors an indelible character of want of politeness.



No. 31. Tuesday, July 12th, 1757.

Nos duo turba sumus-

OVID.

To the CENTINEL.

S I R, NANDO'S Coffee-house.

A Very odd fort of a story is whispered about here, and I am assured it is really sact; I therefore communicate it to you, as I make no doubt but you'll find some end in it, either for instruction or amusement.

A young gentleman who resides near the Temple, and has been long smitten with a very agreeable lady, whose affections were before engaged, was on Tuesday afternoon last drove to such a pitch of despair, by the

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frequent repulses and indignities he had met with from the cruel fair one, who granted him an interview which he promifed should be the last, that, drowned in tears, and feemingly in the greatest anguish of mind, he vowed, with the most bitter imprecations, not to out. live that night; and accordingly halted from her, leav. ing her under some concern lest he should have so little command over himself as to attempt his life; for which reason she dispatched a servant to follow him, who after having feen him as far as the New-river-head, Islington, and not knowing the cause of his errand, returned back to his mistress, and acquainted her that he had left him taking a turn round the adjoining field.—The lady had no sooner heard of the situation of her lover than, suspecting he could have repaired thither for no other reason than to drown himself, immediately gave the alarm to her brother and some others of his acquaint. ance, who, with the utmost precipitation, hurried away to the spot, where, to their great terror and disappointment, he was not to be found. Upon this it was proposed to have the reservoir dragged; but on mature deliberation they agreed to make further enquiry; the refult of which made it appear our inamorato had changed his intentions, if ever he had any, of drowning himfelf; and was, at that time, feeking a relief for his melancholy, by throwing halfpence to the performers at Sadler's wells. Yours. &c.

NIC. PRY ABOUT.

I cannot help censuring this gentleman's conduct in the severest manner; for though I would by no means encourage the horrid crime of fuicide, yet I hold that when a man solemnly engages to drown or hang himself he is bound in honour to do it, and should be looked on as a scoundrel in case of failure.

To the CENTINEL.

A S I was the other day walking from Charing-cross to the Temple I followed a young lady all the way, partly out of curiosity to see whither she went,

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nt, nd and partly out of good nature to take her up if she fell down, or to prevent her sall; which I was all the while under the greatest apprehensions of; and you must own, Mr. Centinel, I had sufficient grounds for my sears, when I acquaint you that the heels of her shoes were about six inches high, sloping from behind toward the middle of her feet, where they ended in points about the bigness of my singer; so that though the lady seemed to walk upon these stills with great dexterity, yet she could not forbear tottering sirst on one side and then on the other, upon the least default of the pavement. I had the happiness, however, of seeing my charge arrive home without any other accident than that of soiling the sides of her shoes, which, by the frequent slips her feet made, could not be prevented.

I intended, Mr. CENTINEL, as soon as I came home, to acquaint you with the affair, that you might entreat the ladies to have at least more regard for themselves than to trust their persons abroad on those elevated slippers, for indeed they hardly deserve the name of shoes, as they are generally buckled quite over the toe, and discover almost the whole foot. But if I was excited to this, upon the first remark of this kind, how much more was I consirmed in this intention upon seeing, the very next day, a lady, to all appearance several months gone with child, venturing abroad in exactly the same manner: nay, Mr. CENTINEL, no longer ago than last night I made one in a dance where about a dozen ladies trusted themselves to jump about the room all

night long, supported only by this means.

They went, however, through every figure with the greatest agility and ease, to my no little surprise and astonishment, by which I found the lady I had first observed to be but a novice in the art of walking in modern shoes. I have heard, Mr. Centinel, many encomiums upon the scating of the Dutch women on the ice, who are said to go many miles, and carry a basket of eggs unbroken to market. I must, however, preser the skill of my countrywomen who can keep themselves suspended upon such slight foundations, and doubt not in time, if modesty would permit, but they

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would be able to exceed even that celebrated stilt-walker, that used to entertain the town some years ago, by stepping over the rails in St. Paul's church-yard, and the

walls of Hyde park.

A gentleman was to-day observing upon this head, that he suspected the ladies had received lessons from some of the celebrated equilibrists, by which they had been so happily instructed to keep themselves duly ballanced. He added also, and that he had it from secret information, that the hoop-petticoats now in sashion were of equal service to the long poles which the dancers on the tight rope make use of; for which reason, he says, we see those ladies who are the greatest artists, to shew their dexterity, go (without hoops) in pet-en-lairs, a kind of dress not much unlike that worn by our female rope-dancers.

If this be the case, and this humour of ballancing increases, I expect shortly to see my pretty country-women, instead of wearing their hats slat on their heads, or cock'd half upward, carrying them, supported only on the edge bolt upright, as the samous equilibrist at Sadler's wells holds the wheel in his mouth; or established of having straws platted into the usual form of hats, they will carry a parcel standing upright on their heads: but haud Roma in una die conditur—arts advance by slow and sure degrees; I cannot expect to see all this at once; I am, however, very glad to find the ladies arrived at the perfection of keeping themselves upright; to oblige them to which so many inventions have heretofore been made without success.

I am nevertheless desirous, Mr. CENTINEL, that you would caution the unexperienced ladies, and those also whose condition requires a more than ordinary care, that they would not depend too much upon their judgement in the equilibrium, lest by slips which may be irretrievable they fall down and never be able to recover themselves again.

I am, Sir.

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your humble servant,

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CHETTORCOOKETISKS

No. 32. Saturday, July 16th, 1757.

Sed vos qui tandem? Quibus aut venissis ab oris?

Quove tenetis iter?

VIRGIL.

THE famous lawgiver LYCURGUS commanded the Lacedemonians never to hold converse with strangers, nor to stir out of their own country; for he used to say, that though they might acquire riches by their commerce with foreigners, yet they would grow poor with respect to their virtues.

This might be an admirable edict in a state where a rude austerity of behavior, and a savage kind of valor, was esteemed the perfection of virtue: but it would be very unadviseable in our polite days, since travelling is become a part of our education, and deemed an essential

requifite to civilize our manners.

Surly cynics have in all ages been enemies to foreign peregrination; and we read in a chronicler of Charles the First that sew went into Italy who did not return dissolute and debauched. In the like manner it has been said of our young gentlemen who travel, that they come back shamefully depraved and corrupted; that they bring home nothing but incredible tales for idle prattle, ridiculous fashions for vain imitation, and abominable vices for horrid examples.

But these are the observations of rigid dotards who are outrageously virtuous, and whose censures are as unjust as themselves are unpolished. Those who know the world can perceive a distinguishing grace and propriety in the the behavior of those transmarine geniusses who have sucked the air of the continent: they have not that narrow way of thinking called Virtue, nor that stiffness of appearance termed Decency, which render our home-bred Britons so awkward and domestic. It is with

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with great concern, therefore, that I view the rifing generation, who, by the unfortunate war with France, are deprived of the finishing Aroke which gives so high

a polish to modern education.

Mourn ye unhappy youth! who are doomed to end your progress within the musty circumference of Oxford and Cambridge. What manners can you learn from formal principals and humdrum fellows of colleges! what improvements can you make in gallantry from eafy conquests over bedmakers and innkeepers daughters whose ready subjection robs you of the means of glory? what pleasure can you receive from large and costly libraries, furnished by the misapplied liberality of stupid fages who vainly endeavoured to make the universities the feats of learning? you know how to appropriate books to better use than reading; and you undoubtedly honor the name of that incomparable artist who converted octavos and duodecimos into tea-chests, and metamorphofed quartos and folios into easy chairs for Cloacina: you know that learning only ferves to fill the mind with prejudices, and to destroy its privilege of free-thinking: you very prudently despise the same of being scholars, and ambitiously aspire to the reputation of fine gentlemen.

But alas! this cruel war prevents you from an opportunity of rendering yourselves complete in the latter character. Oh! what a horrid figure must you make in company, you—who must eat, drink, dress, laugh, dance, bow, walk, and, worst of all, even talk a l'Anglois? how you must blush when you hear mention made of the magnificent and desolate Tuilleries, the court and gardens of Versailles, Marli, the Chateau of Meudon, the comedies, the operas comiques, &c. &c.:
—but above all, how must you be ashamed never to have paid your sees to those paragons of procuration who are guardians of the deliciæ of Paris? how awkward must you appear who have never seen the inside of a hotel, nor slept in the arms of a fille d'opera? will you not have reason to curse America, and exclaim that—

War hath murdered Tafte?

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But be not quite disconsolate, for even those who have been in that fweet country of refinement and politesse will, in time, to their misfortune, necessarily become anglicized in many particulars. Fashions are things of a fugitive nature, and even they who are acquainted with Paris will foon become ignorant of the reigning mode of that captivating metropolis; for as the rude monarch of that well-bred people has been fo uncivil as to turn his best friends out of the kingdom, we shall have no opportunity of imitating those fleeting models of grace and delicacy. Indeed, if the war continues, we may now and then by chance pick up a straggling marquis; and, if we should be so fortunate, I hope that he will be publicly exhibited at the molt noted places in London, that all taylors, periwigmakers, &c. may copy the embellishments of his person for the ornament of their cultomers.

But what the ladies will do, I am at a loss to conjecture, for in all probability we shall make no semale captives among the French; and as their king, by his declaration of war, has made it death for any of his subjects even to correspond with any one in England, they cannot so much as send over an inanimate madame Catherine, dressed an dernier gout, by way of

Who knows but that even now a flounced negligee may be an odious fight at Paris? and that while our pretty fair ones parade in public naked to the waift, with their lovely limbs downwards barely shaded with a little transparent drapery to denote that they are toujours pretes—perhaps the French belles may wear handker-

chiefs and perticoats, decently to hide their nakedness?

To look at many of our beauties who walk abroad one would be apt to conclude that they had jumped out of bed in a fright, and forgot to put their cloaths on. An honest countryman not long since met with one of these modish semales in the Park; she was arrayed in a white calico negligee, which played with the wind, and wantonly twined about the calf of her leg for want of the intermediate opposition of an under petticoat: having viewed her with great eagerness, he suddenly

went

went away full of surprise and confusion, and when he got home he spread a report all over the country—that he had seen a London lady walking in the Mall with

nothing but her shift on.

If, perchance, Modesty should be fashionable among the French ladies, it is very unfortunate that my countrywomen cannot have an opportunity of following their example, fince they have been so very obliging to imitate them, for many years past in a contrary quality.

But as all communication between the two nations is cut off, I hope it may excite us to exercise our own invention, and if we apply ourselves in earnest to the important study of bagattellerie, I do not in the least doubt, from our growing attachment to trisles, but that we shall make such curious improvements in the minute rerum, that we shall ourselves soon become subjects of imitation.



No. 33. Tuesday, July 19th, 1757.

Quoth he, in all my life, till now, I ne'er saw so prophane a show: It is a Paganish invention Which Heathen writers often mention.

HUDIBRAS.

To the CENTINEL.

WHEN HERCULES had demolished the first Troy he established, in eternal memorial of the enterprize, the Olympic Games; and, in imitation of that killer of giants and searcher of adventures, every hero of eminence recorded his exploits, or the great turns of his fortune by the same means, from AUGUSIUS down to GARAGANTUA.

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The chaste Greeks had indeed only four of these; but the Roman world was overrun with them. In the place of the scant number of their original inventors they had the Floral and the Megalension, the Capitoline and Gircensian; but not to satigue your readers with hard words, although it might discover much erudition, I shall, for the honour of my native country, the sole end for which this letter is wrote, drop at once to the annals of Britain, and those authentic registers of her glory the papers of daily intelligence. From these I shall affert that by as much as the Romans excelled their masters the Greeks in the quantity of those honourable exercises, by so much we of the present celebrated period in Great Britain exceed them and their originals together.

The business of this address to you, Mr. CENTINEL, will be to enumerate the games of old and the sports of present time, and possibly something may occur in the comparison of their nature as well as number, which, as it will be doubtless to the honour of our own time and

people, shall not be buried in silence.

When things are honourable, the more there are of them the more is the honour; when they are useful, the oftener they are executed the greater the utility; in number the antient games are not a fiftieth part of those which will immortalize our time; and for frequency, we have more in a week than old Greece saw in a century.

Their sacred sports came once in three, sive or seven years, like a Hebrew jubilee; ours call forth the slaves of business to jollity and merriment ten times in a fortnight: I would not fear to oppose in this light (were there no justice Lediard) our Tothisfields to their Olympus; nor do we want our Castors and our Hercules,

although it chances that we want a PINDAR

To carve in polished verse the cong'ror's images.

That most faithful register of important occurrences to which the eyes of all Britain look up for diversion, business, love and scandal, invites the slave of traffic to-day unto no less than twelve different diversions, all

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of the antique kind; and I think there appears no moderate portion of the free British spirit in that manifesto which some time since ordered the northern road to be kept clear of carriages for nine miles, that the baker and the taylor might be unmolested in their soot race.

The number of our games is not more to our honour than their variety; their variety than their intent. Our ancestors (but theirs were barbarous times) trained their large breed of horses to war, and made them with their hard breasts beat down walls: we laugh at the rude fashion; we mend the kind with the light Arabian, and train them up to speed.

Let no little wit sneer at this as out of the war-trade. He must have seen sew modern campaigns who does not know the use of running away! to a proverb it reserves men for suture adventures: and 'tis hard if an English horse may not deserve praise for that which was the glory of the Greek ACHILLES:

and the modern Field, what comparison can be pretended. There the wrestler entered naked and greased; a woman could not look upon the sport: the delicacy of a modern sine gentleman would have been shocked at it. There men were to shew what they could do; we entertain ourselves with what they cannot. What is so decent as the appearance of a couple of our race-runners tied up in sacks; or where is the competition of pleasantry between their beastly custom of two persons wrestling naked, and our couple of hardy bumkins cramming down the hot hasty pudding.

My principles, Mr. CENTINEL, may be debauched by custom, but I confess I think there is more diversion in seeing a restrict als stand stock still in the middle of a course, and bray at all the beating of his ragged rider, than to follow with my aching eye the spruce jockies, and sancy I see a trial of speed when the rascals have agreed beforehand who shall win.

I don't pretend to blame this practice when their masters betts depend upon it; but when their own half

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As I am so great an admirer of every thing that does honour to my country, I cannot but see with a peculiar satisfaction, the rising custom of exchanging a parcel of trising considerations that regarded an interested commerce, or dirty traffic, for these public, general and useful establishments.

It was with a fingular pleasure I read of the advance made on this head in the antient and honourable county of ***** —of the sixty pound plate given by the knights of the shire, and the other sixty pound plate given by the members for the city. What an example I what true Briton does not rejoice in the sound? how do I hope to see, instead of accounts of this bridge built, that road mended, this hospital endowed, or that manufacture supported, of races and cocksightings established by the representatives throughout the kingdom.

We have been industrious long enough; it is time we frould divert ourselves. A few tradesmen might be enriched, or a few wretches maintained by the old method,

this rains gold upon every alchouses the and a share

While I am doing just honour to the spirit that reigns on this head, I cannot help delivering my mind freely with respect to that magistrate beforementioned, however it may offend him.

I cannot fee why the middle rank should not have their amusements as well as people of quality; why a tradesinan may not have a right to lose his bet, or break his neck, as well as a professed gamester; (with submission be it spoken) he can often as well spare his money, and be as well spared as the other.

I am sensible that busy persons may say all these things are against law; so are lotteries; so is porjury; so are robberies, murder, and a thousand other exploits that we see people daily amuse themselves withal.

As to their being wrong in themselves that is just as custom makes them. When I hear a sour philosopher, upon seeing half a dozen country 'squires amuse themselves at a drag net, repeat the story of Plato, who, when a young nobleman shewed how well he could

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drive a chariot, told him it was a pity he had not been bred a coachman; I laugh at the fober fool, and whifper in his ear, what I am almost afraid to write down for you to publish, that I am glad to fee those people good for any thing: gright day of each anging smile year

17 m

As fond as I am, Mr. CENTINEL, of most of one modern diversions, I must needs say there is one I am glad is abolished. As great a friend as I am to cricket and prison bars, I am an utter enemy to boxing and broad fword : as much respect as I have for the artillery ground, I detest the amphitheatre : it was the only remain of brutal antiquity, and I am mighty glad we are rid of it. I have always thought they who recorded the accounts of those exploits of old, wrote fatires on their country. Take an example.

ARRACHION had gained the laurel as wrestler at two Olympiads, and had vanquished two of his three opponents at a third : but the last of them feeing, by the fate of his companions, that ARRACALON's Itrength was at arm's end, closed in upon him, and feizing his throat with both hands, while his legs were twifted about his, made it his point to choak him. ARRACHION, unable to disentangle himself, broke one of his opponent's toes. The agony made him let go his hold and fall off, and

ARRACHION at that instant expired.

All Greece was present, and their acclamations tore the fkies! --- Horrible devils! --- fiends! that

could enjoy so miserable a spectacle, attendant and

The man who had destroyed eight people without anger or offence, only to flew he could do it, did not deferve pity: but they who enjoyed the anguish and the flaughter, by whatever name they might call themselves, or in whatever country they might be born, were not Greeks but Barbarians. I hope you join in the opinion, foliare cobbe ies, mender, and a four and our ma bnes

your's with respect, or the

collom makes them? When I hear a see health tribe. W An OLD BRITON,

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CHIMEMETALING

t was at left goreed between us he fhould venture in

No. 34. Saturday, July 23d, 1757.

to all farther follicitations on this foote,

Love, the most gen'rous passion of the mind,
The safest resuge innocence can find;
The safe director of unguided youth,
Fraught with kind wishes, and secured by truth.

DRYDEN

Am just now favoured with a very pathetic epistle from a lady; and in complaisance to the fex, think myself under an obligation to postpone to another day what I intended for the entertainment of this.

Mr. CENTINEL, alword I benimment sow at raid

above the influence of those tender follies which so frequently bring missortunes on my sex, yet I will suppose you have a heart full of commiseration for woes you are incapable of feeling, and in that considence will presume to intreat your advice in an accident which has involved in the greatest perplexities a young person, who otherwise might have been happy to the fullest extent of all her wishes.

I am, sir, the sole daughter and heiress of a gentleman of eight hundred pounds per annum. I lost my mother in my very early years; but the extreme tenderness of my father towards me left me no sense of that missortune. About ten months ago I happened into the acquaintance of a young gentleman, who, according to my opinion, has every requisite not only to please, but to command the respect of all who know him. He made his addresses to me; but very privately, as his estate is somewhat inserior to that I was born to enjoy. My father, however, was so much taken with his person, character and behaviour, that

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it was at last agreed between us he should venture to dectare his polion, and implore his fanction to our

" loves: but, alas! just at the time this was resolved upon, that dear parent was feized with a violent

fever, of which he died in a few days, and left me

under the guardianthip of his brother.

Here, fir, began my calamities; the funeral obsequies were no fooner over than my uncle proposed a " marriage between me and the fon of his wife by a former husband; a gentleman in whom, if I was not prepoffessed in favour of another, I could find nothing to approve. I will not trouble you with the shock this discourse gave me; but resolving to put an end, if possible, to all farther sollicitations on this score. I freely confessed to him that my heart and vows were already engaged to another; on which he flew into a great rage, told me, it did not become a maid of ' my age to chuse for herself; that he thought his sonin-law was every way worthy of me; and in fine, that he was determined I should either marry him or

nobody. . The distraction I was in, and which still hangs upon me, is not to be expressed: sensible of the power the late cruel law has given him over me, I have tried every means to fosten his obdurate heart, have had recourse to tears and complaints, have remonstrated to him how unhappy even the person, whose interest he espoused, must be in marrying a woman who never could be brought to love, or even like him; and how inhuman it would be to separate two hearts linked together by the strictest ties of mutual love. But all this has not the least effect, my uncle is wholly governed by his wife, and I am every day compelled to endure the double perfecution of their importunities,

and the nauseous addresses of the man I hate. ' My lover, who is all despair, talks of nothing but obliging his rival to relign either his pretentions or his

life; my tears, perswasions and commands have alone hitherto prevented the rash attempt; bow long they

will have any force I know not, and I am every hour trembling for the confequence. I am

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I am now but two months turned of eighteen, and ' fure it is utterly impossible for me to support, for near three whole years, this load of anguish, which, instead of diminishing, gains every moment some addition to its weight. My lover would fain prevail on me to fuffer him to have recourse to some needy clergyman, for a fum of money, to privately join our hands; but though I as earnestly defire this union as himself can do, yet I confess I have not courage to enter into it this way. - and vermelong and par

Pity, fir, I beseech you, the agonies I suffer for the mischief which has already happened to me, and the dreadful apprehensions of the yet worse that may befal me; and if it be in the power of wit or reason to extricate me from the mileries I am at prelent plunged in, exert those charming qualities for the relief of one who will always retain a due fense of the obligation. In the mean time, be affured I am, with

the greatest respect, and all said siciled year me i

the law envente, you soon in

in the few when softand an any project pathon, is wild, uncoversable, dust to the choolingnee, fets every shing a bin sldmud flom ruoy debance. Tike this gentleyne neder , vheen ei ,eithes, is ready, when any ered lating to dry out with the poet,

AMELIA.

I am extremely affected with poor AMELIA's case: but dare fay there are at this instant ten thousand of his majesty's subjects who labour under the same unhappy fituation. This, however, is no confolation to a person of a generous way of thinking, and it is only from her own fortitude, patience and resolution, she can hope relief.

Severe as the late marriage-act has been accounted, it binds not for ever; the shackles it hangs upon the heart will of themselves fall off in time; dear one and twenty will at last arrive, and young ladies will then be at liberty

to purfue their withes.

Nothing can be truly called a calamity to which we can see an end; I hope therefore the good sense AME-LIA is mistress of, will enable her to consider that this

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decree of the legislature only delays, not frustrates the confurmation of her happiness, and assured that an hour will come in which she will have it in her own power to triumph over the obduracy of her uncle, bear rather with indifference and contempt, than grief, the little teasings she may 'till then sustain from his importunities.

Besides, though she knows and beholds with horror the length of the chain by which she is bound, yet she knows not what events fortune may have in store to shorten it; her uncle may die,—the young spark grow weary of profecuting an unsuccessful suit, and drop it of himself; — a thousand accidents may happen to ease her of this part of her vexation.

The greatest difficulty which, according to my opinion, this lady has to combat with, is to restrain the impatients of her lover from breaking into actions which, in all probability, would more effectually than the late act has power to do, put a total period to all their hopes.

I am very sensible that the fire of youth, especially in our sex, when agitated by any violent passion, is wild, ungovernable, deaf to all remonstrance, sets every thing at defiance, and a lover debarred, like this gentleman, the enjoyment of his wishes, is ready, when any advice is offered him, to cry out with the poet,

Law is to things which to free choice relate:
Love is not in our choice, but in our fate.
Laws are but positive; love's power, we see,
Is nature's sanction, and her first decree.

But if the gentleman in question can have so much command over himself, as to forbear seeking that sail-saction which he may imagine both his love and honour demand for this intrusion on his rights; yet may these rivals, who doubtless are equally incensed against each other, by some accident meet together, words may arise between them, the swords may come for second course, and there is no event more dreadful than what may justly be apprehended from such rencounter.

I cannot therefore help thinking, but that it would be a very prudent expedient for this favourite lover to pass

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the time of his deprivation either in the country or fome foreign part: fuch proper methods might be taken as to prevent any interception of the letters between them; they might lay open their whole fouls to each other every polt, and enjoy a more undisturbed felicity than any they can expect to find amidit the fnares plots and artifices that may be put in practice by those whose interest it is to divide their loves. But above all, I would fain corroborate the resolution AMELIA feems to have taken, never to facrifice her honour and the interest of her future family to a too halty gratification of her passion; as there was some short time since a clergyman of the church of England under septence of transportation for an offence of this nature. I should be forry to see another of that sacred robe dragged like a common felon to the bar of a court of judicature. Agentine british hier the contrabolate has patied affect of



eleganteed without reproach, who assumed et the

No. 35. Tuefday, July 2616, 1757.

and the to another theper? Nugaque canora.

s with degeners or with toron, following the siding notice the Torthe C.E.N.T.I.N.E.L.

SIR,

mercly lines complig-E W books have more excited the general attention than the private hiftory, which at this time threatens, or perhaps flatters the polite world, from the hand of Mr. NASH: The Revolutions of BATH and TUNBRIDGE during that Gentleman's Administration. Very vant and and and

It is of the less consequence, as only the polite world, who may properly enough be called the ufetefs world, are concerned: but as I do not let that tribe ' altogether fo low, as those in general affect to do who pride themselves upon understanding, the subject appears to me not wholly beneath confideration.

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If it might be done without wandering from the pupole, I think I could fay fomething in their favour.

There is, and therefore Nature has intended there fhould be such a class; and nothing proceeds from her

hand in vain. I have accustomed myself to contem-

one of them; and while I admire the bee, I can

amuse myself with the butterfly. of a state and and

Let me endeavour to lead your readers into the fame road of entertainment, and let us for this morning divert ourselves and them, with the expec-

tations and the fears raifed by this uncommon proposal.

Don't let the gravity of your wife people think the entering upon such a subject too great an humiliation.

We must condescend to our diversions, when they do not rise to us: if the emperor was cruel who for his

diversion killed flies, the philosopher has passed through

the world without reproach, who acknowledges the playing with his cat as a frequent and favourite ample.

ment.

I assure myself, Mr. CENTINEL, your candour will admit the apology, and you shall give me leave to triste with the subject, though nobody is more disengaged than I am from the business of this important book, not one of all the expectants wait with more impatience for its appearance; while they look for it with eagerness or with terror, following the dictates of their malice, or their fear, I wish its publication

· merely from curiofity.

A history of the beau monde, is, I suppose, a history of intrigue: there are but two other employments that consume their time, play and debauchery: and these I apprehend are so perfectly alike at this time, and any preceding, and with one set of men and another, that they will not be worth reciting.

The amours of fifty years among a multitude of people of high passions and no religion, must tile to an assonishing account, and be of an amazing variety. I don't know whether their history may not be of as

much use to the world, as the memoirs of a woman of pleasure. What a confusion of fathers must the story

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of that great period produce among those whose blood is their pretence to distinction: what innumerable miltakes in heirs will it disclose - but they have been born in wedlock! what a multiplicity of majden grandmothers!

From the work, fir, let us turn our eyes upon its author. His age demands respect; and his infirmities We fee a man worn out in our compaffion. fervice, and folliciting in the decline of life, our protection: it were ingratitude and inhumanity, should we refuse it. If any fay it is in the service of our pleasures that he is grown old; we must not listen to the reproach; our pleasures are our business; and we should be ashamed of the distinction.

If the life of this veteran has been undiffinguished by any great actions; neither does it, that I have heard, stand accused of any base ones; if it be not marked with glory, neither is it stained with infamy. A man whom every one likes, and whom nobody respects, is not at this time a singular, nor has been at any, an uncommon creature. It must be strange if a trifling character should in so trifling an age want more recommendation.

The claims of fober merit have been a great while difregarded: would not one wish the great should beflow their notice upon fomething? what is most like themselves, is the most natural object of their regard; and I believe it will be allowed, the age has not produced a person, born without a title, who is in every

fense more perfectly a modern man of quality.

Is there any thing that can farther be faid to provoke these peoples liberality? if you can assist me, Mr. CENTINEL, don't refuse the help. Generolity, nay profusion, is in them always a public virtue: for their money cannot fall into hands wherein it will be more ufeless than in their own.

'I had the honour, but let me fay more, I had the happiness once to know a nobleman, who never suffered an animal that had been serviceable to him, to perish milerably. About his kitchen crept the antient cats, the court-yard was the balking-place of superannuated

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mastiffs, and the best pastures about his house were allotted for the food of horfes too old for labour : they were fed, and they were indulged, according to their Several natures; and the services that were past, were understood as their title to that indemnity. I can remember every body applauded his humanity who ordered this; but they who were most eager to commend, are flow to imitate. Ease in the decline of life is the due of merit in its vigour; and it is but honesty to contribute, though we flatter it with the

title of generolity.

If it be faid in viewing the merits of this author I cast a veil over his foibles, I shall bid him who makes the four remark, do like me. Few men have passed through life without faults; none without censure. People who are separated from the common herd never fail to be abused by it: and ambition has such a variety of appearances, that his condition may have feemed to fome a flate to create envy. From the minister, whose meal is at the expence of a fortune, to the /yri/l whose inverted trencher ferves as the delk whereon to write his praises, no man was ever distinguished but he was censured in the same degree. To be railed at, is a mark of differing from the rest of the world; and it is not easy to do that, otherwise than for the better.

' I have faid this to silence the little malice that may have been indulged at this author's expence; and the little wit, to shew their own face to those who may have thought the debauch, or the white hat, because they belonged to one so eminent, subjects of satire or of raillery. But I shall to the humane and generous urge his cause a little farther. We are to make allowances for the best; for men were not intended to be perfect. To those who thrust the foibles of Mr. NASH into the face of fuch as would be his friends, I shall fay, I suppose they mean their severity as praise; they acknowledge malice itself has nothing worse to charge upon him; and I shall bid those who advance his follies against the subscription, shew me the man who has lived fo long with fewer. & IF

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If this were his best praise, it is far from small or trivial: to be free from vice is the first step to virtue: and few of us, even of the best, have a title to this negative applause. But in the present instance there. remains much more to be advanced. If he has made his fortune without industry, he has reduced it in a great measure by generosity: and what some may allow an article of praise, that generosity has often been to worthy objects: if he be chargeable with fooleries that would have difgraced a fop, he has the merit of charities that would have done honour to a

As to the work, we are fure it must have a title to If written with spirit, how entertaining our notice. shall we find it! and if with truth, how terrible! There may be many who will fear; but there are none defire to read it. For my own part. must indifferent as I am, Mr. CENTINEL, I rather wish than expect its being finished; and perhaps I should have faid less upon the subject, had I ever thought I

You must acquit me of any charge of endeavouring to suppress the publication, fince I have told you I should be extremely pleased to read it; but as to the author's interest in that particular article, we know it is often the least concern in subscriptions; and probably, though the gain would be great from publishing, he may get more by letting it alone. The power of doing mischief is now the source of reward; we may carry it from the places of amufement to the and there does not appear any reason why he who is to circumstanced should not demand his contribution of the frivolous, as well as of the great.

As to the author, if you should ask in all this, whether I am his friend or enemy, I should answer neither; but as to his book, with all the amusement it would afford, I can bardly feriously wish its appearance: a history of the people of fashion for the last fifty years would be a fatire on the human species.

> I am, fir, your humble fervant, DESERVED OF

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Saturday, July 30th, 1757.

Tanquam fas non sit, tanquam sit turpe negare: Tanquam non liceat; nulla puella negat. Casta igitur nulla est ? casta funt mille. Quid ergo Gosta facit? non dat; non tamen illa negat.

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LD people daily lament, the encreating vices of the age, and particularly complain that women were never to publicly indecent, nor coquettes and courtezans fo numerous as in our days. may be true, but we are apt to militake the caule, Women are not more bold and abandoned in their nature now than formerly, but they become so by evil education. Parents indifcreetly indulge wanton levities in their daughters when they are young, which, as they encrease in years, strengthen into confirmed habits. In the innocence of youth little coquettish airs have an engaging fmartness, which pleases their miltaken fondness: but they do not confider, that what they admire leads mimic with artless simplicity, they may hereafter be forward to practife with a licentions intention; for a requette in leading-firings, if I may be allowed the expression, is a courtezan in embrio.

Girls formerly were not allowed to go to public places unless attended by some discreet matron; but now they hare permitted to range round the whole circle of vanity, with no other company than their own giddy acquaint ance. It was once elteemed an unbecoming behavior in a man to attempt to stare a lady out of countenance; but the indecency is now reverled. Circumstances seemingly trifling, often lead to fatal errors: and I am inclined to think, that the loofe mode of dress among the \$350 P

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ladies has no small influence on their behavior. From affecting to look like courtezans, they are insensibly led to all like them: and the transition is not unnatural.

If Fanny Murray * chuses to vary the fashion of her apparel, immediately every Lucretia in town takes notice of the change, and modelly copies the chafte original. If Fanny shews the coral centre of her snowy orbs-mis to outstrip her, orders her stays to be cut an inch or two lower; and kindly displays the whole lovely circumference: nay, I have feen women of the frictest virtue approach so near this standard of impudicity, that Clodio himself has been puzz'ed to determine whether they were lawful game. Indeed I can forefee one advantage which will attend this extravagant imitation; and I do not doubt but that in a few years. the fight of a fnowy bosom will be as great a treat, as in the days of queen Bess: for I observe, that as modest women expose the nakedness of their persons, the courtezans artfully conceal theirs.

But this depravation of manners is to be imputed to the negligence of parents, who, instead of checking the first appearance of indecency, encourage its progress. Modelty of manners cannot be too early inculcated. The happiness of posterity depends on our serious attention to this important point. As women are educated themselves, they will for the most part train up their children: and if the mother has not imbibed the principles of chastity, she cannot transmit the divine blessing to her daughters. It is easier to secure them from all opportunities of temptation, than to teach them fortitude to resist the occasion; and parents who permit them to go where they please, and in what manner they please, are accountable for all the fatal consequences of their in-

discreet behavior.

There are few so ignorant, as not to be sensible of these irresistible truths; and they are ready to charge the failing of the improvement fair to the improvident management of her parents; and yet cannot discern, that they are leading their own daughters into the same errors, by the like blameable inattention. But a blind partiality

^{*} A celebrated London courtezan.

partiality and overweening fondness deceives them: they foolishly think their daughters an exception to all general rules; and vainly expect them to pursue virtuous ends, without teaching them the means to attain them. But if they swerve from the rugged path which leads to Virtue, and slide into the smoother tracks of Pleasure and Intemperance; they cruelly abandon them as a prey to Vice, and with unrelenting rage they furnish them for crimes, which it was once, perhaps, in their power to have prevented.

But admitting that parents have fully discharged their duty, and that their children have slighted their instructions and frustrated their paternal care; yet they are still their children: and though fallen, yet Nature directs them to stretch forth the hand of Affection, if possible, to raise them from the abject state into which

Vice has plunged them.

Whatever Passion suggests, Reason dictates this behavior. How can we expect that sorgiveness from the Father of all Beings, which we deny to our own childrent indeed, to reinstate them in our affections, is impossible; nnless we could forget: but to forgive, so far as to lend them our assistance, is in our power; and it is Godlike to exert it. Why, instead of endeavouring to reclaim them from Evil, should we yield them up a facrifice to Vice and Misery? why, because a daughter has fallen a victim to the cruel artisice of one man, should we compel her to wanton with a score? why, because she has resigned her body to pollution, should we drive her among the herd of prositiutes to debauch her mind.

Though it may seem a bold affertion, yet we need not scruple to affirm, that Incontinence is not always a proof of Unchastity. Many unhappy fair ones, won by soothing solicitations, have consided in salse promises, and devoted their persons to an indiscreet affection, who have nevertheless retained their chastity, and been

unpolluted in their minds.

They indeed who court their shame, and by their indiscreet behavior and wanton allurements, tacitly invite the authors of their ruin; they must be thoroughly abandoned;

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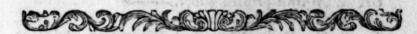
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abandoned; and before their persons are stained, their minds must have been corrupted.

Passion and prejudice will not allow this distinction: but if we divest ourselves of prepossession, calm reflection will force us to acknowledge that it is just.

Some urge the necessity of exercising this rigorous cruelty to deter others from the offence: but allowing it to have this effect; yet we may venture to fay, that this distant motive never sways the rigid individual; but I deny that it produces the supposed effect: for daily experience teaches us, that nothing can restrain a feverish affection, nursed by temptation, and matured by opportunity: yet, though it cannot prevent the crime, it will aggravate the consequences; for when they know that they are cut off from all hopes of forgiveness, they give way to despair: and many have been confirmed in vice, by an ill-timed severity, who, by gentle and rational usage, might have been made proselytes to virtue.



No. 37. Tuesday, August 2d, 1757.

Cormina jam moriens canit exequialia cygnus.

DO not pretend to comprehend all the meanings in the following mysterious letter: I hope there are none but good ones: if the hand from which it comes were known, there could not need an apology for printing it unaltered.

Mr. CENTINEL,

TOU have read of men who understood the language of animals, and of revolutions in states occasioned by their discourses; but they have been ignorant who delivered down the traditions: more brutes speak than we are aware of, and the knowledge of their conversa-

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conversations is not to be obtained by any magic fecret, but by a good quickness of ear. A desect in my eyes threw me to the care of a very egregious hero in the field of medicine, and I submitted to his remedies: I cannot say they had the promised effect upon my sight, but they have given me a miraculous acuteness of hearing. Without cabalistical rites I can hear the language spoken by our brethren of the earth and air; and if you will permit me, I'll give the world an instance of the advantage. Chance led me some days since (strolling slowly by my dim light) to a waste corner near St. Giles's, where reposed upon an old water-pipe, I heard the sollowing dialogue between lady Susan Squeak, a sow of condition, and lord Gregory Grunt, a porker of quality.

Gr. What has disturbed you, lady Susan? What paper is that you are trampling to pieces? — is it the bill of your English milliner; or has some plebeian boar insulted

you with his paffion?

Sq. Read! read! read there!

Gr. Why 'tis a printed paper.

Sq. Read, read, lord Gregory!

Gr. "The Daily Advertiser, Wednesday, July the "twenty-seventh." Why how has this provoked you? Sq. We and our whole race are given to destruction! read there! that paragraph.

Gr. [Taking out his glass.] "Wanted at Chipping-"ong ar a schoolmaster to teach Latin, &c. the salary

" ten pounds a year."

Sq. Poh! that's not it! the next! the next, lord

Gregory !

ELESTINOS.

Gr. "A hog-butcher is wanted at five and-twenty "fhillings a week." O horrible! — Four shillings a week for instructing their children, and sive-and-twenty for cutting our throats. — Britain thou wilt be famous for cultivating the sciences; unkhh!

Sq. Let us retire to the centre of this thick inviting puddle, and mourn our fortunes where no ear can hear us.

Gr. No, lady Susan, let us face these enemies! let us no longer snort and grumble out our grievances: they have starved us by feeding their poor upon our right,

he

the grains and raspings*, and now they are determined

to destroy us. ____ Let us remonstrate!

Sq. No, good lord Gregory! — Let us solace, while we may, in these delicious quagmires; if we must fast, let it be with patience! and when death comes, we must submit; while we live, these soft delights are ours; these they do not envy us!

Gr. O lady Susan, but I know you had rather have an intrigue than a good meal, for you are a sow of quality.

Sq. I own my weakness!

Sq. A speaking hog! - Who ever heard of it?

Gr. Nothing so common.—Beside, as there are but two of us that have the faculty; but two remaining of all the race of that great boar Mars animated when he killed Adonis, we need but speak out to be worshipped—Come the worst, we two shall find employments: doubtless the men of learning will hereaster become bacon butchers, and they will be glad of us for schoolmasters.

Sq. 'Tis better as it is.

Sq. Stop, stop, degenerate lord Gregory: foul! this delicious puddle foul—I blush for you!——Let us tear these papers; and while that can be done, preferve our throats——But let us not degrade our genealogy: we are of Oriental origin——Removing into this Western world we have improved the customs of the East; we have their indolence, but better pleafures: what is their down, my lord, to this mellow, jelly, yielding owzy bed!

Gr. You rave!

Sq. I feel what I enjoy. This log's superior to the best wench pillow + and dirt! — O speak not of it! it

A modern parish expedient . † Amusement of the Chinese.

fills the pores, and creates those tickling itchings we allay by rubbing. Not Chi-ho-am-ti ever felt fuch exquifite delight when his ear was tickled, as I, when I get a post; but when I find the corner of a wall, 'tis rapture ! - I pity those who call champooing * pleasure.

Gr. Good lady Susan! --- Heaven preserve your fenses!-

Sq. Kings have been mad as well as I, when such a thought inspired them : _____ too great for subjects! - 'tis a delight too much for human nature. And you would have us give up this?

Gr. For what is better-

Sq. Nothing's better! - You'd have me talk! for what? to be lock'd up as a wonder _____to be gaz'd at as a monster-to be mew'd up in a parlour like our gigantic cousin of the Hay-market. _____To keep company with the tall woman and the Norfolk dwarf; be fed beaftly! _____ liberty and ease are my delight, not gormandizing: ____ every two-legg'd creature of condition can do that: the very members of your Arthur's and George's. Then, my lord, they who speak must hear! intolerable! ____ I must converse with every coxcomb wit of the Temple, and hear the indecent jokes of women of quality: a hog of any delicacy cannot bear it.

Gr. You will be admired by all the world, and shewn before -

Sq. The royal family? or the royal fociety?-

Gr. Nay, if-

Sq. I will hear nothing of it! Gr. Would you not be admired?

Sq. Perhaps for a fortnight ---- novelty will give charms to any thing. I remember when you was as fond, my lord, of that ring in your nose, as if they had hung a ribbon across your shoulders; - but I suppose by this time it would be no pain to you to part with it. Novelty that dazzled you will always strike mankind. If a straw could raise itself up on the end, they would croud to fee it, as innumerably as if it were

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^{*} Amusement of the Chinese.

Gr. Madam, I take my leave of you; you are too passive for one of my spirit to converse with, neither hog nor man that submits to such a sate deserve a better.—Have not I seen your eldest son burnt in the street, the throats of your young samily cut in their cradle, your daughter Swash barbecu'd, and your savourite Squall whipped to death to make him tender; nay, have not your own teats been cut off, while you were pregnant, to try whether sir Epicure Mammon's dish were palatable? and yet you are content with your con-

dition.

Sq. You see I have discretion, if I want your fire : while you rave, I tear the paper; which is doing our kind the most real service. But, my lord, I see some thing to admire even in your faults; and I'll give you the reasons of my conduct.——If our railing could take off the edge of their knives, you should hear me fcream as loud as you can for the heart of ye; but fince we can't destroy them, let us leave them to destroy themfelves; we contradict our own interest when we rouze them from their lethargy. --- All power owes its original to knowledge, and knowledge flows from learning, why would you support a foe that will reduce himself; let our enemies go on their own way; and learning will in another year or two be as low among their students as their nobles; you won't have a man left that can spell his name: then, my lord, then will be the time for us! one of us in such a land will be respected with a vengeance; when they begin to feel their

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own want of sense, then they'll reverence it in others.

——As it is, my dear lord Gregory! (while so many men speak) a hog of any discretion will be silent?

So ended the conversation of our two friends; pray give it to the public; and don't suspect I who transmit it, made it for them. It is among men one plumes himself upon the eloquence of another.

a brute of any spirit would disdain it.'

I am,

your humble servant,

Wern got : oor to are tight alor

DEPARCUS.



No. 38. Saturday, August 6th, 1757.

Quid domini faciant?

To the CENTINEL.

We visit whom you have often remarked; I need not name him when I have reminded

you how often we have been entertained with his extravagances: but I shall surprise you with one later

than any you have heard, and which will add not a

little to his character.

'He was with me this morning, and acquainted me
with great concern, 'he was under a necessity of
leaving his lady's service: he had a little affair upon
his hands, and must be for some time invisible." I enquired what it was, and told him I would get it settled.
"Twas impossible, he answered; he had
wounded his adversary, he seared mortally, in a
rencounter."

'I had been used enough to this extraordinary character to keep my countenance at this declaration: I

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was curious to hear the story of a duel fought by a footman, and asked with an apparent concern, and a respect due to the nature of the accident, what had been the occasion, and who was his antagonist?

" Give me your permission, sir, said he, and I will " relate the accident. We were last night at my lady " HARRIOT PAM's rout; your honour knows lord "GEWGAW has brought a French valet from his tra-" vels; and this fellow feeing my lady go up stairs, " faid in the public hall, shrugging up his shoulders, " his master was a happy man; all the ladies were in " desperation for him! that lady, said he, that went " up now, who is one of the finest women in the king-" dom, would not fay no, whatever he pleased to ask " her. I believe the fellow meant nothing but to play " the Gascoon for his master ; but characters are not to " fuffer for fuch follies. I took him gently by the fleeve, " led him to the door, and there told him he had in-" fulted a lady who was under my protection. " lady's honour, I added, was my own, and I demanded " fatisfaction : I insisted that he named time, place, " and weapons for the encounter; or I should lead him " back by the nose to the company.

"My gentleman told me he was a man of honour;
we parted when our principals left the assembly; and
punctual to the moment, let me do justice to an enemy, he came into Hyde-park this morning. I waited
near the Powder Magazine: my antagonist advanced
from the Gate, and he drew before he came to the

" Serpentine river.

"The French, sir, you know, are full of parade.
"I took him just under the short ribs, while he was making a flourish. He dropp'd and cry'd in a weak voice, juste ciel! I have sent him a surgeon; but not daring to venture home, I presume to request your honour to give my lady the detail of this adventure,

"which separates me from her commands."

'So ended the relation: I dismissed the sellow with some money, and my advice to retire to another kingdom till the noise of the unhappy affair should be over; but before I let him go I entered into some ferious

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ferious discourse with him. I told him custom had reserved this manner of decision to people of a disserent rank; but he answered, "no condition exempted man from sense and seeling, and that a man of spirit never selt without resentment. He knew the thing would appear particular to many people here; but he could not help vulgar prejudices. It was not common among servants of this nation, he was sensible; but he believed courage was national to the Irish, just as England had the source; he added an impudent illustration that took from the merit of his harangue. But upon the whole parted with his common spirit.

These were his sentiments; and as near as I can recollect, his words: many of them were so particular that you will easily imagine I remember them punctually. I have repeated the story to half a dozen people that came in, and it has been received by all with vast laughter: for my own part, I see it in another light. The ridicule of character is, with me, lost in the justice, and let me say, dignity of the sentiments;

and I hope I shall find you of my opinion.

Many a man can think justly, and we see act greatly, who cannot express himself in proper language; and we see they may act the heroes, who speak fops. I never supposed merit, of whatever kind, denied to any rank, and am extremely pleased with this proof, that soibles do not infer the absence of virtue; but that a coxcomb may be a man of honour.

'This fellow would have received applause had he defended the purse or jewels of his lady from a robber: what reason is there he should not have more praise for desending her reputation, much more valuable?

for defending her reputation; much more valuable?

There may be supposed differences of spirit in different degrees; but if that be more than supposition, chance, not any thing in nature, has made the difference; and certainly courage as much becomes the footman as the first rank in human station. If there be any thing that strikes me particularly in this accident, it is the mixture of such unequal qualities in the same man; and the caprice of Fortune, in putting

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people out of their places. It is pity this fellow had not the spirit we have seen without the impudence; and having it so, it would have been a proof that imagined deity was blind indeed when she gave him a livery.

There may be room for more reflection: this incident sets that nation in a point of eminence extremely to be envied, in which such courage is hereditary. We see the value of Ireland in this instance; and should learn to reverence what we are too apt to ridicule. The same spirit that called out this single Frenchman would be terrible to his countrymen in the

" field.

It is unhappy, that the artifice of this people has found the way to turn their courage in some degree against ourselves. There is no part of the French force that could be terrible to an English soldier but their Irish regiments: they have been signally useful to that people on all occasions, and it is a reproach to our policy that we do not engage them in greater number. I am no native of Ireland who write this, that, Mr. CENTINEL, you can attest for me; but I shall add to their character, that courage is not more

general among them than fidelity.

We see here the men, from among whom regiments might be raised for the most desperate service: let us use them well, and there is nothing we may not promise ourselves in return. What may not be expected from a corps of men fighting for their country: every one of which would be ready to call out his man to single combat. We are apt to entertain an ill opinion of the lower people of that nation, because we see too many of the worst; and because from our own dispositions, we are ready to drown a thousand instances of virtue under one of vice: but we have here a proof, that all those of the lower class are not the wretches they are represented.

Iam, SIR,

your very humble servant,

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No. 39. Tuesday, August 9th, 1757.

Di, quibus imperium est animarum, umbræqué silentes, Et Chaos, et Phlegethon, loca nocte silentia late, Sit mihi sas audita loqui: sit numine vestro Pandere res alta terra et caligine mersas.

VIRG.

favourité with me, for the noble sentiments of morality and the inimitable strain of poetry which run through it; I frequently read it with the most transporting pleasure, and after sinishing it; I cannot but look down very much upon the degenerate state of poetry among the moderns: for the strong nervous thought and natural expression, they have substituted pretty conceit, quaint phrases, turns, strokes, and I know not what, tending to a general depravity of taste among us. Filled with these thoughts, I lately retired to rest, when queen Mab immediately appeared to me, and from the mixture of ideas sluctuating in my mind, she dressed up the following scene to my imagination.

I thought she commanded me to set out on a journey through the head of a modern writer, which I instantly agreed to, and the goddess accordingly took me in her chariot. In a short time we arrived at the apartment, where the bard sat, sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought. At my sirst approach towards the intellectual regions, a terrible effluvium "proceeding," as SHAKE-SPEAR has it, "from the heat-oppress'd brain," struck my senses; but I was soon diverted from that uneasy sensation by a personage who offered to be my guide: from a conscious simper, a careless disposition of his person, and the tenor of his discourse, I knew him to be VANITY, and accepted the compliment. Our way

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was through a thick skull, of which we at once took

possession, and plunged into the abys.

At our first entrance a confused noise affailed our ears, and we were instantly beset by a number of phantoms placed round the portal. The god Somnus lay firetched at full length, diffuling round him vapours and infensibility; a group of wild Dreams and Reveries hovered over him, and below flowed the river of Animal Spirits, dull, flow and lazy. Numbers were gathered round the banks begging a passage into this gloomy world, but the Charon of the place, a torpid, decrepid fellow, known there by the name of PERCEP-TION, gave a few of them a tardy admittance, and to the greater part he was entirely deaf. Among those, whom he rejected, I perceived a train, which I took for the nine Muses, but was informed they never had attempted to pass that way, and upon a nearer view I found they were the amiable band of moral virtues. who feemed to be extremely dejected at meeting with a repulse from any human being. They gave me to understand, that it is now become fashionable to discard them every where, at which I expressed my uneafiness. begged a more intimate acquaintance with them, and advanced towards the boatman, PERCEPTION, who. with the help of his spectacles, at length descried me and received me into his care.

The river had a great many turnings and windings (for dustile duliness new mæanders takes) but after some trouble we at length reached the opposite bank. An uncultivated track lay before us, dreary and dark, no ray of light to break through the mist; impenetrable obscurity involved the scene, and vapours rolling over vapours made every thing an universal blot. I pursued my journey with all possible expedition, and arrived at the Repository of Ideas, as it is here called, they key of which was kept by Memory. I addressed him in the politest terms, and as I supposed this to be a storehouse of universal knowledge, I begged to be favoured with a view of the several acquisitions he had made. I desired he would produce some occult qualities, of which I had no manner of notion; I begged to

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be favoured with the light of an idea, and I called for feveral of the metaphysical train too tedious to enumerate; in divinity I remembered several things of which I never could attain a clear conception, and I have not arithmetic enough to recount the multitude of the mathematical species which I wanted; the debates which I have heard in Westminster-hall gave me occasion to enquire for many of the legal band, and I was curious after an infinite multitude of the Parnassian tribe, mentioned in a pompous style in several modern poets. I longed to see an envenomed shaft taking its statal aim, winds wasting prayers on rosy wings to heavens, &c. and though no pains were spared to gratify my request, I must own, that I remained as much in the dark as ever.

The next place we came to was the Lugentes Campi, or the Mournful Fields, facred to Venus, and I was shocked in a a very sensible manner, to find such a prodigious waste in the human frame. I met with nothing here but Cupid's darts, consuming sires, and all the modern train of loves artillery. As I was sufficiently acquainted with these, from a constant and unweated perusal of our modern tragedies and other poetical productions, I hastened to the seat where Judgment presided.

JUDGMENT seldom made any decisions of his own, but was biassed in all his decrees by several that surrounded him, with so much authority, that I supposed they were in the commission. The chief of these was PRIDE, with a losty air and supercisious brow, which called to my mind the excellent remark in the Essay on

Criticism.

Of all the causes which conspire to blind
Man's erring judgment, and misguide his mind,
Which the weak head with surest bias rules,
Is pride, the never-failing vice of fools.

Pore,

Next in place was ILL-NATURE, callous and hardened to every gentle sensation of humanity, and quite a stranger to that delicacy of elegant minds, which beholds the merit of another with pleasure; but on the contrary, me-

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contrary, every thing shining with the smallest degree of lustre is the object of his aversion, and he is never pleased but with the missortunes of his neighbours. PREJUDICE also seemed to have no small influence with the court, and VENALITY, with itching palm, frequently gave a new turn to every thing, being ready to engage on either side in politics, to abuse a worthy character in satire, or exalt a base one in dedicatory

panegyric.

From these principles I could easily imagine to myself what kind of opinions were likely to arife, and therefore haltened towards Elyfium. In my way I perceived a desolate tract, which may be called the region of Tortures. Here I faw Grief, Despair, Envy, Revenge, and all the agonizing cares that made this place work than what the poets fable of their Tartarus. In one part was to be feen Ambition falling back, like the stone of Sifyphus; in another place Hunger was tantalized with the hopes of a supper, but the worst of fiends. cruel Want, forbids the touch. Here stood a pillory, with Defamation nailed to it by the ears, there a blanket stretched out, and a bard going to be toffed in it.—Here a tumultuous playhouse at the damnation of a virgin muse; the sneering beaux in the boxes display their false teeth; the pit rises enraged, the gallery opens its rude throats, and nothing is to be heard but " throw him over-won't y' ha' some orange chips-" won't y' ha' some nonpareils --- off the stage, off, off," till at length the catcal whizzes, and the poor poet in the mean time is ready to expire, and pangs as bad as hell torment him.

Had I all the pens of all the scribblers of the age, I should not be able to relate every occurrence in my adventures, and I was by this time admonished by my guide that we were arrived at the seat of Happiness. Here we found INVENTION happy in a review of all his airy beings, that were fluttering round him in a variegated dress, pressing and crowding upon each other, as if to force a passage into open day. I stood for a time wondering at this mighty bustle, and then enquired what might be the cause of it. To which INVENTION

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replied,

replied, "that bright band which you behold fo eagerly gathering about the gates of life, are the chosen few " to which Apollo has appointed a new birth into the world, and they are now impatiently waiting till " proper bodies are prepared for them by those poetical " midwives, commonly called bookfellers. They were " all in the beginning wafted over by PERCEPTION, " whom you have feen, and were thence conveyed to " the repository of Ideas, in the care of MEMORY, till in the various course of human contingencies, "they are again called forth, and by my skill arranged " in proper order for their appearance among the " fons of men."

Thus having faid, he led me round the whole extent of Elyfium, gave me a complete view of all his intellectual train, and at length dismissed me through the ivory gate to breath the vital air, to which I was highly pleased to find myself restored, and the joy occasioned by this reflection operated so strongly on my spirits, that I felt myself in some agitation, and was instantly wakened out of my dream.



Saturday, August 13th, 1757.

Misce stultitiam consiliis brevem, Dulce est desipere in loco.

Hor.

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HE CENTINEL being indolently disposed, avails himself of the two following letters, the first of which he received about a fortnight ago, the other, yesterday; and either being too short for a whole paper, he has tacked them together for this day.

Mr. CENTINEL,

a lang amiliane sales he benef HERE is hardly any thing more mysterious and furprizing to people in the country in general, whose riches consist, like the old patriarchs, agerly

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in corn, cows, sheep, &c. than our London account of the price of stocks in Exchange-alley: — books sometimes open, at other times shut, is Arabic to them; and I never could thoroughly explain the affair to any but old widows and maidens, whose little fortunes lying in the funds, they watch both principal and inetrest as closely as a Prussian Centry does his enemy—for it is death in that army to use your eyes otherwise than straight forward.

But, if your country folks are puzzled, at our 'Change-alley affairs, we are no less so with their historical account of the important matters among themselves: of this kind is the following! faithfully remitted to me from Windsor, during a late election

Prices of votes and other commodities at Windsor, &c.

"Old votes—one hundred guineas, commonly called gentlemens pounds.

"New votes-nine-five-and a court promife of

" future employ.

"To any one who shall be able to keep back a voter from joining the opposite party—fifty pounds with thanks.

" For a broken head-if it bleeds freely-five guineas,

" and a furgeon gratis.

" For a dry broken head-fifty shillings.

"To those who use hangers, and will venture to stand against the same weapon—ten guineas.—N. B. No pushing weapons are allowed, till matters come to a push.

"To those who use and will fland the oaken stick"five guineas—ten guineas, if a quarter-staff.—N. B.

"Great encouragement at this time to reapers and haymakers, who will bring their scythes and hooks with
them, and know how to use them advantageously.

"For a false oath, twenty shillings—if detected,
only half—and security to the party to keep him
from the pillory, by a written order of Mr. F-x—

to all justices of peace whatever.

"To any coachman, who will drive over a voter in the opposition—five pounds.

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"To ditto, if he will overset the coach of any voter coming to Windsor, and prevent their appear. ing by breaking their limbs, &c. — sive guineas—and thanks.

"To any one who will contrive to put landanum into the drink of any voter, before the poll begins, fo as to fet him alleep, and render him useless—ten guineas, and promise of a place in the excise or customs.

"To any bruifer who will squeeze any voter, as if in friendship, and break his ribs,—ten pounds and a life-guardman's place, if of a proper height—otherwise, to be one of the yeomen of the guard—
N. B. To encourage artists, these places generally fell for 60 l. at least. To persons who can only make a noise, and stop up the passages leading to the Town-hall, 5 s. a day."— There were many other articles with relation to your noblemen and gentlemen voters—but truth is not to be spoke at all times!

Yours, erc.

T. K.

Mr. CENTINEL,

HE following epiffle I met with at a neighbouring fea-port, and shewed it to our curate, who said that the girl's sentiments were much the same with that of Ovid's heroines, were theirs to be stript of poetical decorations. A day or two afterwards he brought it to me, as likewise an attempt to versify it; both which I herewith send you, and am your friend and constant reader,

M. C.

Lovin Der Charls,

"This with my kind lov to yow, is to tel yow after al our sport and son, i am lik to pay fort, for i am with Child, and wereof mi sister Nan knose it, and cals me hore and bich, and is redy to ter mi sol owt, yet Jack Peny kices her every tim he cums ashor, and the saaci Dog wud a lade with me to, but i wud not

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40 " not let him, for i wil be alwas honest to yow, therfor any " Der Charls, cum ashor, and let us be mared to fafe pear. " mi vartu, and if yow hav no munni, i will pawn mi new staies, and sel the smocks you gav me, and that " will pa the parson, and find us a diner, and pra Der num " lovin Charls cum ashor, and, Der Charls, dont be gins. " afraad for want of a ring, for i hav stol mi fifter -ten " Nans, and the naaty tode shal never hav it mor, for e or " the tels about, that i am going to hav a bafterd, and " god bless your lovin fol cum fune, for i longs to be as if " mared accordin to your promis, and i wil be your nd a " own der vartus wife tel deth." 1.-

SA. HAZARD.

" P. S. Pra dont let your mesmate Jack se this. of for if yow shud, he'l tel owr Nan, and ther wil be " the Devil to do."

Dear object of my love, whose pow'rful charms With bliss extatic fill'd my clinging arms! That bliss is past; and nought for me remains, But foul approach, and never-pity'd pains! For (Nature baffling ev'ry art I try'd) My fifter has my waxing waift defery'd; And brands me oft with each opprobrious name; Tho' the crack's conscious she deserves the same. Her loofe affociate, sated, from her flies, And oft, the vainly, to seduce me tries; True as a wife, I only want the name: O hast to wed me, and restore my same! No lack of coin our union shall defer, For my pawn'd stays will well supply, my dear; And those good smocks which once your fondness gave : Those smocks I'll sell, or any cloaths I have: What these produce, will pay the coupling priest, And furnish dainties for our nuptial feast. O how I long my loving Charles to fee, Haste then my life, to happiness and me; Nor anxious be bout that material thing. For I've just stolen my saucy sister's ring. In vain she may expect me to restore; No! faith, - the flut shall never have it more.

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Come quick, my love, for far she spreads my shame, Come I patch my virtue, and defend my same:
Take me, and make me soon thy lawful spouse,
Then heav'n shall bless thy due regard to vows;
And will reward thee with what lasts for life,
A tender, duteous, sond, and saithful wife.

P. S. These earnest dictates of my anxious heart,
I beg you wou'd not to your friend impart;
For oft, beneath fair friendship's specious shew
Lurks the false trait'rous undermining foe.



No. 41. Tuesday, August 16th, 1757.

Κλύτε, φίλοι, θείος μοι ένύπνιον ήλθεν Ονειρο.

OMHP. IAIAA.

HOUGH it is the duty of a CENTINEI to be always awake, he may fometimes receive shrewd hints of intelligence while asleep, provided he is properly visited in his dreams by the spirit that presides over the unsubstantial regions of sancy. Without any further preamble I shall communicate the particulars of a vision which lately disturbed my repose, immediately after I had been indulging a melancholy series of reslections upon the sate of my country.

Methought I heard the wind howl and the hail clatter, and shrunk with horror at the severity of the weather, I found myself on the top of a bleak hill, roughened with hillocks, and covered with fragments of stones like the remains of an ancient commetery: I cast my eyes upon a plain to the southward, and beheld such a scene of desolation as smote my heart with grief and dejection; for the space of sour miles the ground exhibited the ruins of a mighty city; shattered spires, half-demolished cupolas, roosless palaces blackened with the smoke of conflagration,

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conflagration, decayed porticos, broken columns, and innumerable heaps of brick and stone, formed a scene at once magnificent and deplorable. The face of the adjacent country was parched, bare and barren of herb, tree or living creature; a dreary filence reigned all around, and I began to think I had been transported by some invisible hand into the neighbourhood of Balbec, or of the Ægyptian Heliopolis, destroyed by the pride of brutal conquerors. I saw the sun rise in the east with a dim and fickly aspect, and a thick fog vanishing from the same quarter; I perceived a strong citadel surrounded with all the outworks of modern fortification; there I heard the explosion of artillery, a white flag was difplayed upon the ramparts, and the field was gradually covered with armed troops. Having fatiated my view with these objects of horror and dismay, I turned my eyes to the northward, and the visible horizon presented a wide, extended, naked prospect of uncultivated lands, except in some parts, where I discovered a few wretched cottages, skirted with small fields of oats and barley, insufficient to reward the peasant's toil; here and there appeared the miserable inhabitants singly and dispersed, they seemed to be the remnant of some earthquake or other dire calamity; their looks were meagre, wan and dispirited; they were embrawned with filth, ragged and forlorn; their locks hung down, lank and dishevelled; the men wore wooden shoes, the women walked barefoot; and they spoke a dissonant jargon, compounded of different languages, which I partly understood. While I contemplated these circumstances with pity and surprife, a venerable old man ascended the hill, accompanied by two youths of a very prepoff fling appearance'; they were clad in homely russet, but they approached with an air of dignity which shone through the rusticity of their attire; their features were fensible and manly, and their eyes replete with sweetness and vivacity: advancing to the submit, the senior surveyed the plain below, and heaving a profound figh, " For your fakes, " my fons (said he) I am contented to survive the ruin " of my country! in vain I employed my influence, " exhausted my estate, and exposed my life in her de-

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" fence: the measure of our guilt was full, and the " vengcance of Heaven is completed: I, who was born " to princely titles and possessions, whose progenitors " were ennobled for illustrious deeds of patriot virtue. and whose heart beat high with the pride of fortune and prosperity, have lived to see myself reduced to " the lowest ebb of indigence; to see my houses plun-" dered and destroyed, my friends and kindred slaugh. " tered, my fellow-citizens enflaved, my native foil pof. " fessed by implacable enemies, myself driven from " fociety, and obliged to take refuge in an obscure re-" treat with you my children whom I have trained up " with all the pleasing anxiety of paternal care: you " are already well acquainted with the hiftory of your " unhappy country, I promifed to indulge you with a " fight of her once glorious capitol! this hall which is " now called Mount Louis, was formerly distinguished by the name of Hampstead; and these the remains of " London." So faying, he turned aside his head, and the tears trickled down his furrowed cheeks. I no fuoner heard this explanation than my heart died within me, " where have I flept (faid 1) while this difmal change " was effected? where are my wife, my children and my friends? where are the villas that beautified this " once delightful spot? where is that wealth, conveni-" ence and fatisfaction that every where appeared in " these subjacent places? where are the crouds of happy " people that Augusta was wont to pour forth? where " are the liberties, the laws and constitution of my " country?" I broke off this mournful foliloguy that I might attend to the conversation which passed between the old man and his fons, one of whom, with the deepest marks of anguish, defired to know the state of the nation immediately preceeding this piteous catastrophe.

"For more than half a century (faid the father) the nation had been haltening to its ruin. A stranger having been called to the throne, introduced foreign connections, to which the interest of the kingdom

was made fatally subservient: B-n was involved in quarrels not her own: she engaged as a principal

where

" where the ought to have acted only as an auxiliary : " and paid as mercenaries those who should have co-" operated as allies; nay, the even hired different " powers to defend themselves from their natural ene-" mies, as if it had been necessary to bribe them to " their own fafety; and as if that province had belonged " to her alone. Every finking state, every needy po-" tentate, every rapacious el- r craved her pro-" tection, follicited subsidies, or listed in her pays " Her treasures were dealt out with a lavish hand, " among a parcel of beggarly and ungrateful depend-" ants. In a word, the veins of the --- heifer were fluiced, and the hounds fatted with her blood. "One would have imagined the ---- was in a conspiracy " against the state; and that the chief aim was to im-" poverish the people. The channels of such profusion " could not be supplied without laying grievous impo-" fitions on the public, and therefore recourse was had " to a scheme of corruption equally iniquitous, effectual " and abfurd. The fubjects were bribed with their " own money to load themselves with intolerable bur-" thens, and even to perpetuate the oppression. By " this infamous commerce all fense of honour and duty " was gradually destroyed, and a tide of luxury break-" ing in upon all ranks of people, completed the fatal " degeneracy of the nation. A new succession required " a repetition of the same facrifice. B --- was still " doomed to bleed. When her wealth began to fail, " her credit was racked for the same pernicious purpolese " fhe law her debts daily increasing, and her taxes " multiplying in the fame proportion. The clamour " of discontent, the appearance of bankruptcy and " distress made little or no impression upon her. She " ran headlong into exotic wars with a fort of frantic " ardour; she redoubled her own load of impositions, " as if the had been eager to incur the beavielt preflure " she could bear. At length she became so stupid that " she seemed to lose all sense of honour, shame and suf-" fering. She was defeated by land, difgraced by fea, outwitted in the cabinet, baffled in all her schemes " of action, commerce and alliance, ridiculed by her

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" friends, and pitied even by her enemies. Infensibi-" lity was no longer a misfortune; had she recollected " her own state she must have been overwhelmed with " despair. By this time she crawled under such a weight " of imposition as no other nation ever sustained : her debt amounted to an incredible fum, the bare interest " of which exceeded a whole revenue of many a pow-" erful state. To raise money for the payment of this " interest, every convenience, every necessary of life " was loaded with double duties: nay, fome articles " passed through the ordeal of nine different taxations, "We payed tribute for the food we eat, the liquor we " drank, the attire we wore, the fire that warmed us, " the candles we burned by night, and even for the " light of the fun by day, which the most wretched " flaves are permitted to enjoy as the free gift of nature. "Thele exactions were scarce sufficient for the interest of our national debt, even when mortgaged and entailed " upon posterity; but the expence of the government " required a still greater sum, which other schemes of oppression were invented to extort. Talent was ne-" glected, virtue despised; floth, irresolution, vice and " universal profligacy prevailed. Our go-rs were of arbitrary and infolent, our statesmen ignorant, weak and timorous, our councils distracted, our efforts " languid and ineffectual.

"B-n in the midst of this infatuation, pro-" duced one man who feemed capable of rescuing her " from the brink of destruction: he inherited all those great qualities which have distinguished the most emi-" nent characters of antiquity. He possessed the eloquence of DEMOSTHENES, the probity of ARISTIDES, the " patriotism of LEONIDAS, the courage and constancy of Scevola, the humanity, the politeness, the " talte of ATTICUS, and the incorruptibility of CATO. "When he raised his voice in the senate, faction was " hushed, and envy charmed into attention, admiration " and applaule. He fingly stemmed the torrent of " enchroachment, and rolled it back upon its fource. " He afferted the rights of his fellow-citizens with fuch " a force of eloqution as all the perfidious orators of " arbitrary

" arbitrary power could not withstand. They shrunk " before it like insects from the blaft. In vain they " covered themselves with the veil of loyalty and fair " pretence; the edge of his eloquence foon penetrated " the thin difguise : it fell like the sword of MICHAEL : " it operated with the energy of ITHURIEL's spear. " They could no longer conceal their real deformity, " but started up confounded and abashed, the slaves of " tyrrany and the tools of corruption. When he ex-" plained the national grievances, exposed the abfur-" dity of a wicked and ignorant ad _____n, and " foretold the mishaps of his country, every ear was " flartled, every heart melted with affliction, every " mouth acknowledged that the divinity spoke within " him; yet were his oracles neglected. For a long " time he experienced the fate of CASSANDRA: his " countrymen owned he was inspired, even while they " difregarded his prophetic cautions. They were lulled " into a trance of stupefaction, from whence the magic " of his tongue had power to wake them for a moment. " and then they relapfed into their former infensibility. "Time verified his predictions in a series of calamities " and difgraces, which, like the actual cautery, feared " them to the quick, and at last roused them from their " lethargy. They recollected their condition with hor-" ror; they did homage to the virtue they had fo long overlooked; they turned their eyes upon him as the " favour of the nation; every corner of the kingdom resounded with his praise: they extolled him as the consummate statesman, the unshaken patriot, the fast friend, the pious fon of the unfortunate En-d. "They in secret wished, they in public demanded that " he might be employed to retrieve the desperate affairs Their sense and reflection had returned " of the nation. " too late: their shackles were already forged; their " clamours were contemned; their fuggestions opposed " by a small, but desperate faction, which had already " been concerned in betraying the interest and honour " of their country: a faction supported by an army of " mercenaries, and gilded with the countenances of a " virtuous

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had fatally mifled.

" This cabal was become fo infolent and callous, fo si lost to shame, so deaf to all the dictates of honour and decorum, that in opposition to the patriot, they boldly fet up as minister, a man without birth, fortune, interest, capacity, experience or virtue: proud. of gloomy, rapacious, turbulent and rash: in his private ife, abandoned as CLODIUS; in his schemes, pernicious " and desperate as CATALINE. His own partizans were ashamed of his character, which was exposed over the whole kingdom, to all the shafts of ridicule, and " all the poignancy of fatire. At length among the number of his dependants, he found, or formed an author, who assumed the pen in his behalf. Degenerate as we were, I believe this was one of the few writers who would have engaged as advocate in such a cause: but his performance was, if possible, more contemptible than his subject: without learning, iudgment or humour, he attempted to reason, to remark, and to ridicule. He was a meer shadow in writing; his works relembled the froth of the fea, or the bubbles which children blow in foap-water : I may venture to characterise him as a vain, empty, " petulant, frigid proftitute, who buzzed about for a

few weeks like a painted fly, and then returned to " his native obfcurity." The sequel of this dream

we must defer till another opportunity.

No. 42. Saturday, August 20th, 1757.

Corpus onustum animam quoque pregravat.

ARTER, with whom I brought my reader acquainted in my 26th paper, some days ago produced me four persons and a full trunk, as the first fruits of his office, and gave me the following account 42,

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account of his expedition, which I wrote down as he

spoke it. Your Honour remembers the day I received your Iast instructions. Having determined what road I flould take to find a proper loading for your purpole, and do justice to my own undertaking, I set out the next morning and got by noon to ****. My arrival occasioned some bustle in the place, and in half an hour's time I found my new fashioned cart surrounded with a crowd of people, whom I harangued upon the fubjest of my errand: they expressed their approbation of my defign by a general huzza; but I could fee no figns of a loading amongst them. At length a clergyman appeared, who I found had the character of a learned, sensible gentleman, of an exemplary life : I could easily perceive from the honour and respect which every one shewed him, that he was held in the highest esteem. He saluted me in an obliging manner, and enquiring into the nature of my office, applauded the delign; and pointed out to me among the crowd, one, who, he faid, was the greatest and most obnoxious fool of his parish, and consequently fuch an one as I fought. This person was the spruce young gentleman here standing before you. Honour sees how smart and well-dressed he is. He has long practifed at the looking-glass, a gay, chearful, and triumphant mien, and always drelles after the newest French fashion; but his talents perhaps will furprise you. The clergyman gave me his history

"He was born in my parish, where his father purchased a pretty estate, and left it to this his only heir. In his youth he was sent to school, and afterwards to the university; and next made the tour of France and Italy. As he was early indulged in the gratification of every desire, however fantastical, vicious or extravagant; the university did not reclaim him. Since he left it he has minded nothing but dress and dissoluteness, and of late has grown fond of the company of witlings, and the writings of

in the following words.

" freethinkers. I am not for perfecuting those who

differ from me in speculative points; being taught by Christianity, as well as by the light of reason, that " no man hath a right to compel another to declare " himself a christian against the conviction of his own " mind: but what principles this man has, are no less " contrary than his practice to the peace and welfare of · fociety, and therefore properly cognizable by the " civil magistrate. When a freethinker produces ar-" guments against Christianity, I would not have them " suppressed, but fairly examined; as a detection of " errors greatly contributes to establish the truth of " our holy religion. I often converse with this perverted youth, and entreat him to assign his reasons " against our religion; but, as if he knew no more of " good breeding than of the doctrines of christianity " and of natural religion, he immediately falls a laugh-" ing, and tells me I am too stupid to understand " them. When I attempt to lay proofs and demonstra-"tions before him, he draws up his nofe, and begins to " whistle, or calls over to me the names of all the " modern freethinkers he can remember, and often " mentions SPINOZA; in short, he is the public di-" flurber of my parish, and every one is scandalized at " his dissolute life. As he has never done any body the " least good office, nor given any real sign of benevo-" lence, friendship or humanity, we shall all be obliged " to you, fir, to rid us of such a troublesome fool." When the clergyman ended his discourse, the people with one voice declared themselves of his opinion, and directly huffelled the freethinker into my cart, At first he was not extremely willing to go with me, but at length grew better reconciled, resumed his usual gaiety, whistled, laughed, sung lewd songs, sometimes curfed the parson, and discovered great indignation that he should fall a facrifice to the zeal of such a furious bigotted puppy. I leave it to your Honour what you shall please to do with him; but in my humble opinion he should not be dealt severely with: if he were made to learn his catechism, perhaps he might begin to use his understanding, acquire a notion

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past conduct.

After having refreshed myself I proceeded on my ' journey, and towards evening arrived at **. I had been stopped upon the road for a smuggler by some cultomhouse-officers, who infilted upon having my cart opened, but finding only this gaudy fool in it, they went away laughing, faying I had fmuggled a

Frenchman. As foon as I put up at the inn I gave out printed bills to make known the purport of my coming, and my defign of staying only two days. That evening I received feveral parcels which your honour will find in the trunk, and early next morning four well look-

ing men brought me this gentleman, who appears for dark, dismal and half-starved. They gave me the following account of him: " he calls himself a moral " philosopher, though his knowledge confifts in nothing

" more than dry logic, and abstract metaphylics. He " is possessed with the spirit of disputation. He talks " in all companies of abstract ideas, fitness and unfitof ness, pre-established harmony, sufficient reason, &c.

" infomuch that nobody can speak a word for him and " his jargon. He is such an idealist, that he denies " the existence of an external world, and the reality of

"his own fenfes. He despiles the Bible, the clergy, " divinity, and all other branches of learning, belides " his own; infifting that no books on those subjects

" are written in a scientifical, demonstrative manner, " fo as to fatisfy any reasonable creature. Nobody can possibly tell any use his knowledge is of to his

" country. He himself is, in reality, little more than an abstract entity. His behaviour is extremely rude " and uncivilized. He despiles everybody, and thinks " no man has sense enough to understand his profound

" speculations. He undertakes to reform every thing, " prescribes laws to his Maker, and tells you how God

" is obliged to act and deal with all his creatures. " He laughs at all the princes in Europe for not govern-" ing their states according to his metaphysical notions."

"Upon hearing this account of him, I immediately put · him him into the cart to his brother freethinker; and was entertained with their incessant disputes as we drove along: they once grew so hot and loud in their disputation that I was obliged to threaten them with the discipline of the whip, to prevent their coming to blows: I would not therefore advise that these two gentlemen should be kept together: It might perhaps be proper to allow the metaphysician, for some time, a liberal diet, that he may feel he has a body; and then make him labour for the good of himself and others.

'The third person that here stands before you, I found at - . As I entered the city, the freethinker and the metaphyfician were in the heat of a dispute, and raised their voices so high that all the boys in the street, the footmen, the maids, and half the town, ran after me. Soon after I made known the defign of my coming, a very genteel woman brought this man to me, reeling as he was: fhe faid, she had been compelled by her parents to marry this monfter. for the fake of his estate; and related, with tears, the base usage she had suffered. "He games, says she, " all day, and feldoni comes home fober: and I am obliged to undress him, and do all the servile offices of about him. He shews me no civility; and has feof veral times beat and abused me. When I alk him for money to keep the house he is always angry, and colds and fwears at me; which treatment I must un-" dergo a fecond time, if such a dinner as he likes be " not dreffed to the time, and in the manner he would "have it. I have brought him feveral children; but " he is always enraged when he finds me with child. "He is now grown more intolerable than ever: 10 " that, if you please, I will deliver him into your hands, " in hopes you will return him to me improved." ! Having found, upon strict enquiry, that the complaints of this gentlewoman were just, I put this fot, in his drunken state, into my cart, where he snored the greatest part of the journey, My freethinker and metaphysician began a fresh dispute upon the subject of this drunkard; the freethinker praised him for fol-· lowing 42.

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lowing the law of his nature; whilst the metaphysician despised him for acting unfitly, without a sufficient reason; and by his beastly conduct degrading himself.

from a rational entity to a fenfual one.

The fourth person that stands before you is, as you see, a woman: she is fifty years old, and has been twelve years a widow. I took her in at

She is a magazine of news; knows all that is done in

her own town, and a great deal more that is not done.

She goes constantly to prayers, and in company appears extremely devout. She has remedies for every disease.

She is a famous match-maker; and knows beforehand, by her dreams, all the extraordinary events which

come to her knowledge. She brings many people

together by her dreams, and the news she retails; but the scandal she daily invents and propagates parts

many more. She knows extremely well how to infinuate herfelf, and procure people's good opinion,

by hypocrify and flattery: but this good opinion continues no longer than till she is known. At my

arrival she was grown scandalous, and universally detested. I stuffed her into my cart, whilst all the

boys of the street pelted her with dirt; so that I was

' glad to find I had brought her off alive.

These are the four persons I bring your honour at this time. The trunk you will be pleased to examine at your leisure. Some of the packets were thrown to me out of windows, and others were brought to me in the dusk of the evening: but it would be too teditions to relate all the circumstances that attended the

delivery of them.'

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CHETTOMODICATION

No. 43. Tuesday, August 23d, 1757.

Magistratus, tanquam gladius, quibusdam datur, ad rempublicam contrucidandam. TULLY.

Subordination of power is effentially necessary in the administration of all kinds of government, the better to fecure the rights and liberties of the subject, and to dispense impartial justice to every member of the state. All men are by nature equal, and have equal right to every thing which this world affords: but at the original compact they refigned, or at least must be supposed to have resigned, their natural rights; and to have entered into a political covenant, by which they confented that the will of one or more should be considered and taken as the will of every distinct individual: and this real or supposed compact has introduced that subjection, which is so abfolutely necessary for the peace and order of fociety; for if all men were allowed to retain an equal right to every thing, it would follow, that their feveral pretenfions must be decided by force, and consequently men would live in a state of war.

Notwithstanding the opinion of the samous Hobbes, it is unreasonable to suppose that men were by nature in this hostile state: for as the ingenious baron Montesquieu observes, we may safer conclude that they were naturally timid, and anxious for the preservation of their being, by pacific means. But with due deference to the judgment of so great a man, I cannot think, that the example of the wild man who was found in the forests of Hanover, which he brings in support of his thesis, is by any ways cogent or satisfactory: for it is natural to suppose, that a human being, savage and solitary, would sly from numbers, though of his own

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species. But in order to make a fair experimental trial, we should confront him, in such his lonely desolate state, with an individul; and then we might make a fair judgment of the operations of pure nature: though even then, I am inclined to believe, that they would rather sty from each other, till the tokens of reciprocal fear gradually inclined them to approach and enter into a connection.

Thus it seems most probable that men were by nature inclined to peace; but after they became connected, and one found that he had more strength of body, or sagacity of mind, than his companion, than arose the superiority; and then mankind entered into a state of hostility, which made a political union necessary, in order to preserve the weak and defenceless from the ambitious attempts of the more strong and powerful.

Now, whether at the original establishment of this union, the supreme power was lodged in a body politic sole, such as a monarchy, or in an aggregate body politic, such as an aristocracy, oligarchy or democracy—it will naturally follow, that however the sovereignty was established, a number of inferior magistrates and ministers must have been appointed, to watch and provide for the public good, and act for its safety and security.

By magistrates, I mean those who have a judicial authority: and by ministers, such as are only entrusted with an executive power: and on the prudent and impartial appointment of these officers, the well-being and regulation of every species of government does in a great measure depend. It is with infinite satisfaction that I congratulate my countrymen, on the great regard and strict attention which is paid to the ments of every man, in whose hands the least particle of power is deposited; down from the prime minister to the bead-borough. Were I to display the excellence of every intermediate rank, between those two extreme points of power, a volume would scarce contain the eulogum; I shall therefore content myself with admiring the wise conduct which is observed in the choice of those worshipful personages called justices of the peace.

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Every man who is acquainted with the nature of our constitution, knows that their office is extensive; and that consequently, the discharge of it requires extensive abilities and unbiassed integrity. It is to them that the legislature, for the most part, speaks: it is to them that the execution of their solemn acts is committed: and it is to their sagacity and penetration that they leave the construction of their mysterious edists.

Who can be better qualified for this important charge than wealthy and opulent tradefmen? men, who have reaped the fruits of their labours, and furvived their industry: men, who from their long commerce and transactions with mankind, must be acquainted with the fraud and knavery of the world; and are consequently the fittest to detect every species of imposition and

iniquity.

I know it is objected by some, that they are generally men of no learning and education, and therefore incapable of a proper discharge of so great a trust: but I have always observed this to be the remarks of those learned pedants who boast of their literature, and fallely imagine, that a liberal and learned education is absolutely necessary to improve our understanding, and soften our manners: but daily experience convinces us that this is an erroneous tenet; and that learning, on the contrary, only tends to consound our judgment and corrupt our morals.

What the world calls learned men, are either rigid dogmatists, who draw conclusions which no one but themselves can apprehend, or else they are rank seeptics, who doubt of things, which every one but themselves must believe: they are so accustomed to literary altercation and polemical disputes, that their brains are turned with controversy—and losing their pure native understanding, they acquire a fort of artisticial reason, which misleads them from error to error, like an ignis

fatuus.

Will any one presume to say, that such men are sit to expound the laws of a nation, and to distribute justice to their fellow subjects? every impartial man will allow the contrary—and acknowledge, that the plain tradesman,

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radefman, who only knows his mother tongue (and hat too in the vulgar dialect) is by far the most suitable person to fill an office of such an important nature; as he is an utter stranger to all those artificial quibblings. which Tully calls the apices juris, he is not likely to Sophisticate the law, and by a syllogistical way of reafoning, prove black to be white, and versa vice, white to be black.

I own I take great pleasure in observing these mechanical esquires employed in the exercise of their double calling. What can be more agreeable than to fee a cherry-cheeked grocer retire from behind his counter (where he has been weighing of fugar-plums and dried figs) and feat himself in his elbow chair to balance the scales of justice—and with great solemnity, ponderate whether he shall commit a strolling courtezan to the house of correction, or give her a private invitation to his bedchamber? or to fee a squab upholsterer, who after using his endeavours to discover and destroy those nauseous vermin, which insest the domes of Morpheus. and hinder the repose of the natural body-suddenly change his occupation, and exert his noble talents to detect and punish those more noxious vermin who difturb the peace of the body politic.

But I must observe, that though I think it dangerous for them to be scholars, yet I think it highly necessary that they should know how to read. I have heard of a worthy magistrate in the country, who was led into a very dangerous miltake, for want of this accomplishment. It is faid, that a statute was made in the time of fome of our antient kings, against firing a beacon-this the justice unfortunately mistook for frying of bacon; and innocently thinking himself bound to put the law in force literally, he committed feveral poor harmless countrymen for indulging their appetites, as he thought,

contrary to the injunction of the legislature.

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Saturday, August 27th, 1757. No. 44.

Vulnus alit venis & caco carpitur igni.

VIRG.

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HE following history with which I present my readers this day, I can affure them is genuine; and did I not think my bare affertion of weight fufficient to gain it credit, I could authenticate the facts by the testimony of many persons now in London (well known to several of the first families in town) who lived in the neighbourhood of the lady's father, and were perfonally acquainted with him.

Miss MOLLY PACKINGTON was the only daughter of a gentleman in Shropshire, a very plain but sensible country 'squire, of a temper naturally warm and positive: but, after the first heat was over, easily reconciled. Miss was brought up as genteely as a country education could admit: nothing was wanting that could be procured to the improvement of her mind as well as body: but the grand effential, the only preservative of a girl with warm passions, was beyond the confined sphere of her life; - I mean, a proper knowledge of the world. Residing altogether in a part of the country where there are few acquaintances of either fex, whose conversation or behavior could inspire her with that delicacy of thinking which is chiefly to be learnt from a variety of company, the was the more susceptible of wrong impressions; and a certain openness of temper, joined to a natural good will towards every body, rendered her incapable of suspecting that to be wrong which her nature led her to approve.

Miss Molly was just got out of her teens (an age of no very great experience, in country-girls at least) when her father brought home with him one day to dinner a young spark, drest as fine as a lord; but his

awkward

awkward carriage and behaviour plainly betrayed the rusticity of his breeding. When they sat down to table, the father, not much given to circumlocution, in his nfual blunt manner faid to her, " How dost like him for " a husband, Pol, ha? he's to ha' thee, girl, he's to " ba' thee; what dost think on't?" - Here an accident put an end to his discourse: Tom was going to set a turene of peafe-foup on the table, but by chance turned it toply-turvy all over the beau; who springing up from table ran stamping about the room. Tom stood like a statue up against the wainscot, pale and trembling; the beau ran about crying; the father was swearing and making apologies; and miss was just falling into a swoon. The footman flew to her from his post, where he was before fixt, and caught her in his arms. While To M and the father were employed in recovering her, the lover was scraping off the congealed soup from the gold lace of his dear scarlet waistcoat, unconcerned for every one but his own precious person. The old gentleman. after MOLLY had come to herfelf, feeing the indifference of the wretch, though he was vext at heart, could not yet forbear laughing at his grotesque figure. The brute, in the utmost malice and revenge, fnatched up a carving-knife, and made directly at the father, which probably he would have buried in his heart, had not TOM stept in between, and received the blow himself in his right fide. The father foon difarmed the villain. but not being of a mischievous, though passionate temper, only gave him two or three kicks, called him dog, and pushed him out of the parlour. When he turned round, a melancholy aftonishing scene offered to his view, the footman lying on the floor weltering in his blood, with his daughter close by, weeping bitterly, and kissing him with great eagerness and affection. He would have raised her gently by the arm, but she tore herself from him, crying out vehemently-he has killed my HUSBAND.

What a discovery was here! — The father was rivetted awhile with amaze, but presently flung out of the room, slapping the door vehemently after him, and retired to his closet, just as the other servants hearing an uproar

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were going in. A surgeon was happily at that time in the house bleeding one of the maids, to whose care Tom was immediately configued, and his faithful dear

MOLLY was carried up to her own apartment.

The old gentleman in the mean while felt a conflict of anger and affection within him. He locked himself up for two hours, and spent his rage on a solio history of England, which he tore in a thousand pieces. At length his passion subsiding, reason and restection took place: he sent for his daughter, resolved to rate her severely, and turn them both out of doors a packing to-

gether.

MOLLY came up, trembling opened the door, but did not dare to go in; her father flew to her, caught her in his arms, hung down his head, burst into tears, and wept so immoderately, he had only power to say, "My " child, my dear child, how could you do fo?" A pathetic silence here ensued, while they both lay entranced, as it were, in one another's embraces on the same settee: but the father first broke it by saying, "I " hope Tom is not kill'd." This was succeeded by a fresh torrent of tears on both sides: - but it would extend beyond the bounds of my paper, were I to enlarge on every minute circumstance. Let it suffice, that mis at length owned, she had had a long intimacy with that footman who was brought up in the family from a boy; that she had persuaded him to marry her as last week, which he did, one morning while the father was a hunting; and concluded with affuring him, that no one foul knew the fecret but himself and the parties concerned.

As to Tom, the knife having glanced against the lower ribs, his wound was not deep, though the effusion of blood had flung him into that insensible state resembling death, as before described. As soon as he was perfectly recovered, his master ordered him up stairs, and received him at first with a stern countenance, but presently after turned away from him, and burst into tears. He bid him with a faint voice immediately quit the house, keep the whole affair secret, and go up to London. He put a letter directed to one in town into

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his hand, gave him ten guineas, and wished him a good journey: Molly should write to him his mind by and by. "Will you not permit me then to see my dear "wise once, before I leave her?"—"Go, go, I have done with you, pretend a quarrel between us to the fervants"—and then the old gentleman run out of

the room, lest he should be seen to weep.

Tom obeyed his father-in law in every point; and though it was a most cruel stroke to him to leave his poor wife behind him, yet fomething encouraged him to fet out with resolution. As soon as he came to town, he carried the letter as directed, which when opened was found to contain a bill of 50 l. with orders to the person to procure him cloaths, &c. and to purchase as foon as possible a purser's commission in some man of war or other; which foon after offered. Handsomely equipt according to his station, Tom set out on a cruise. Bing the fon of a country schoolmaster, though his father died when he was very young, he had been taught accounts at home; and having a natural turn for bulinels. he foon qualified himself completely for his post. His affability, his condescention, his humanity, and withal his strict honesty, gained him the love of the whole crew, as well private men as officers.

Pride was a principal ingredient in the mind of Molly's father, as politivenels was another. Molly therefore never once attempted to oppose her father's resolutions in this case. She comforted herself with what he often told her, "'Twill be better by and by: " he faved my life, you know, from that villain." This confideration indeed worked so strongly in the old gentleman that I firmly believe, he had never been reconciled, had it not happened. Near a twelvemonth had now passed, and MOLLY had been sent to live with a distant relation in North Wales dependant on the family. She had not been long there, when the fatal news reached her, that the ship, in which her husband was embarked, had been funk in an engagement, and every foul perished: but after some time, which she spent in lamentations, a letter was brought her by her father's fervant : as foon the faw the hand, the fhrieked

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out, it was her lost husband's writing: she devoured it with her kisses, and quite drowned it with her tears: at length she opened it.—Good heaven!—her husband alive! and coming home!—impossible.—Yet so it was. An engagement had indeed happened, in which the thirty gun ship he set out in had been sunk, but providentially his good behaviour had advanced him to

one of fifty guns but two days before.

After having been a little while longer at fea, they had the good fortune to take a very rich prize, in which Tom's share, as purser, was pretty considerable. He returned to England; and being by this time well nigh forgot in the country where he had before lived, the father concerted measures with him, that he should buy an estate in the neighbourhood, and advanced him what money was requisite for the purchase. When this was effected, miss was sent for home again, and her husband was instructed to make his addresses to her in due form, as though they had both been fingle. At length, after the previous time spent in fictitious courtship, they received the congratulations of their friends, as a new-married couple. The father foon after died, leaving them in possession of a large fortune, which they at present enjoy without the least reproach from others, and with mutual fatisfaction in one another. the honour and happiness of two worthy persons secured by the resolute contrivance of a benevolent, but cautious parent. in this cale. She conston d



No. 45. Tuesday, August 30th, 1757.

Punica se quantis attollet gloria rebus. VIRG.

THERE seems nothing to be so much talked of, and so little understood, as Wit; and if one considers how very differently most authors that have wrote upon this topic, define it, it is not surprising.

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All of them, fince Mr. LOCKE, agree with him in his distinction between Wit and Judgment, and as I would not be particular in this respect from the rest, I shall take the liberty of quoting the passage :

"Thence, perhaps, may be given some " reason of that common observation, That men who " have a great deal of Wit and prompt Memories, have " not always the clearest Judgment and deepest Reason: " for Wit lying most in the assemblage of ideas, and " putting those together with quickness and variety, "wherein can be found any refemblance or congruity, " thereby to make up pleasant pictures and agreeable " visions in the fancy; Judgment, on the contrary, " lies on the other fide, in separating carefully, one " from another, ideas, wherein can be found the least " difference, thereby to avoid being milled by fimilitude, " and by affinity to take one thing for another. This " is a way of proceeding quite contrary to metaphor " and allusion; wherein, for the most part, lies that " entertainment and pleasantry of Wit, which strikes " so lively on the fancy, and is therefore so acceptable

So far, I fay, they all coincide in their opinions, but do not long continue, for although they allow there is this distinction between Wit and Judgment, they immediately contradict themselves, and tell you Wit cannot be defined; or that it is opportunity and circumstance; others affert Wit is Sense, consequently Judgment;

Mr. DRYDEN fays-

" to all people."

Wit is fine language to advantage drest, What's oft' been thought + but ne'er fo well exprest.

Which of these is right-or are they not all wrong? Mr. ADDISON feems to approach the nearest defining what appears Wit to me; and yet, pardon my arrogance, he feems to have mistook his own meaning, in saying, That anagrams and acroffics are falle Wit, according to his definition of it: for to fay, that they do not consist of ideas, must be an error-what is it that does not create them in us of some species or other?

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I am very apt to think, that a compound of these various definitions of it would come pretty near an entire definition, and that to try whether Wit be false or true, Sense (supposing a criterion for it) should be the standard. Were we to try it accordingly, I am very forry to say, that but sew of our modern productions would bear the test. What pieces can we boast of, that are not really dull and insipid, or that do not please by a kind of sustre borrowed from salse humour or parody? I would not exclude these in their persection, from coming under the denomination of Wit, though but of an inserior value? they bearing that proportion to Metaphor and Allegory as Drapery in painting does to Likeness.

Were I to assign a reason for this degeneracy of Wit, I should paraphrase the words of our modern journalist patriots, when they inform you of the reason of the decay of commerce. They say it is owing to the importation of French commodities; so in this it is occasioned by the introducing of French Wit. Modern French Wit chiefly consists in double entendre. Their sashions we generally follow to a nicety, nay, even make improvements in them; but in Wit we sall far short, for we degenerate double entendre into pun. Few make the material distinction between double entendre and pun: the difference is, the first never infringes upon grammar or spelling; the latter always upon one, sometimes both.

Though the complexion of this gay nation, and the peculiar genius of their language, will admit of numerous conceits this way, I am sensible ours will not; but this is far from an argument in savour of puns, which are infinitely more despicable. Notwithstanding a writer is very culpable for larding his lucubrations with this originally exotic force-meat, still his readers are more to blame than him: for the fondness of a writer for this species of Wit, would be of no longer date than the fondness of the reader. But this age that has produced the resurrection of punning, that was buried from the time of James the First, likes more to be dazzled and surprised than instructed and improved.

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The moderns love to have their imaginations warmed. more than nourished-Like epicureans, they fall on those morfels that require the least chewing, in hopes of the fooner enjoying others as delicious that they have in Hamiyu , NW

I shall not trouble my reader in this place with the definitions of the various species of Wit, as Allegory, Metaphor, Simile, Irony, &c. he is, as I apprehend, and would willingly believe, already acquainted with their fignification: but shall take notice here, that fashion seems as prevalent in regard to Wit as any ornament of dress. From Riddles we jumped to Acrostics, fluck a long while at Rebuffes, and Conundrums were universally worn for a short time. Then Parody was brought again into fashion, and Puns are now become catholics. Nor is it surprising that it should be fo. for I look upon punning to be infinitely more an epide. mical distemper, than that which sometimes rages among the horned cattle; and it is confidently reported, that in case this distemper should spread, and to prevent anti-ministerial wits grinding any more Stones, or building New-castles upon their foundation, a bill will be brought in next less—n, to entirely prohibit it in the three kingdoms, under very fevere penalties, in hopes of putting an end to the contagion.

What furprifes me not a little is, that all those authors that have ranked punning among falle Wir, as well as fome other kinds, have far from being the last in introducing among their productions a great quantity of the species they decry. The defects of others we perceive, note, and ridicule; our own we fee in quite a different medium, and fancy they are excellencies, though of the very same nature as those we before Laute da sonsister omal

censured.

Let the faults of the greatest writers be in some meafure a palliation of my guilt. If I were to argue any thing else in my favour, it would be the depravity of the times that prefer romances, and the wit they abound with, to reason and the pursuit of nature, a knowledge of phanomena, or improvements in science.

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Perhaps it may be expected that I should define what true Wit really is, by giving some examples; but as any thing like this from myself would be the summit of va. nity, I shall instead thereof conclude this paper with a true specimen of the false Wit, which was put into my hands by a friend, some years ago: the reader will easily conceive at what juncture it was written.

The COOK's JOURNAL, or, KITCHEN GAZETTE.

ment of declar a friend the day one appropriate the first Tuelday, August 19, 1746.

N this paper will be contained an effay, or d'ffertation, on fome entertaining subject occasionally, with a regular and well-connected feries of facts, which shall be treated in their proper courfe, and according to their respective deserts. encept the borned assignment as

Extract of a letter from Mr. TURBUT on FISH. STREET. HILL, to Mr. WHITELOAF of BREAD. STREET, prefident of the CALVE'S HEAD fociety in BUTCHER-ROW at the fign of the Robin-hood.

" Though the fire of rebellion, which so lately burnt among us, is now ended in smoke; yet such is the ingratitude of the age, that both young and old still haunt the flews, and nothing is heard but broils in our ffreets. So true is it, that what is bred in the bone ne'er goes out of the flesh. Never a barrel the better herring. My very herb-woman, forlooth, must dress her in rich fluffs, and no one in her eye is well-bred but her. As for the c-t, the wheel still goes round and round in the fame manner as usual; and happy is the dog that shall be preferred to turn it. Is it not surprising that one man, as dull as a flock-fife, and as thick as any Tewksbury mustard, should always rule the roast? Nay, I can affure you, a certain patriot that bellows so loudly, and spits forth his venom against the c-rt, would sain have a finger in the dish: but, though he thinks him felf sure of a place, yet, as his deligns are smelt out,

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and his contrivances blaze forth, he will find himself a gudgeon at last. In a word, sir, our ministers go backward like crabs, and whenever they treat we are sure to fare but sorrily."

I am yours, &c.

Coquus.

Yesterday arrived a mail, &c.

oregon differentiated foot appoint on exercise

FOREIGN NEWS.

Italy. The Spaniards here are in a lad pickle, for the king of S. has so foujed them that they are forced to cry roalimeat.

Genoa. We have brought our pigs to a fine market. We thought to cut and carve for ourselves, and a fine mess on't we should have made; but, alas! the proof of the pudding lies in the eating.

From the camp in Flanders. The foldiers are in high spirits, and threaten to make mincemeat of the French, and flice them without mercy. But rabbit 'em, I'm afraid they will save their bacon this season.

Breda. Several state cooks are expected here to toss up a peace, which shall suit every one's palate. As England has been the drudger, it is expected that she will have a plateful, and H-n v-r too will come in for a sop in the pan.

HOME NEWS.

London. The rebels thought to have a fine dish of milk, but it chanced to burn to, because the pope's foot was in it. Several of them are trussed up already, and several others will be made to pay sauce for it.

On Saturday last lord L v-t was brought pinioned to the tower, and, it is said, frets in the gizzard.

Yesterday lord K. and B. lost their heads. Lord K. did not slomach it; but lord B. was of a different kidney: he was always a free liver, and had always a bold heart. There was no one present but did melt with pity.

MURRAY holds his tongue, and gives but small lights into affairs.

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by justice de Veal to the Poultry Compter. The mob wanted to fall foul upon him and duck him.

POSTSCRIPT.

I have often observed that people in different situations of life have always had different inclinations with regard to their choice of roots and herbs. A taylor, we know, is particularly fond of cabbage; a placeman is charmed with his salary, and a courtier often longs for penny. royal. Rue is almost every one's portion, but the sage is possessed but by few. The lover is enamoured of his marygold and sweet margery, the debtor owes his safety to the Mint,* and every one agrees that time is the most precious of all things.



No. 46. Saturday, September 3d, 1757.

Desine molle, precor, verbis convellere pectus: Neve mihi, quam te dicis amare, noce. Ovid.

SIR. To the CENTINEL.

HE many instances you have given the public of a heart bent on branding villainy with its proper degree of instamy, and of giving to plaintive distress its proper regard, embolden me to trouble you with the subsequent lines. The kind caution your taking notice of them will give to the rest of my sex, who are involved in the same circumstances, and that secret check which your publication will give—to the wantonness of the person herein branded, will be no weak motives to engage you to lay my case before the public.

'Know then, ah! know, Mr. CENTINEL, I once was happy in the affection of Scotus. If there ever was a willain he is one; if there ever was a monller, Scotus

^{*} Debtors who live in that part of London called the MINT cannot be arrested.

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SCOTUS is a monster!——But it is not my intention to inveigh, but to relate. May all the virgins of England learn wisdom, and SCOTUS acquire honour whilst he reads it!

whilf he reads it! SCOTUS is a person of no considerable stature, of great vivacity, polite in his address, and fluent in his speech. If his countenance appears Comewhat mean at first fight, his behaviour always gains him friends. He has an opennels which perfuades every one that he is honest, and he is so free in his censures of vice. that one would suppose him a miracle of virtue. To these charms my heart became a captive, after SCOTUS had paid me many a vifit. He asked leave to pay his adresses in form; but he asked with so much modesty that it would have been savage to resist, and cruel to deny him. My confent he obtained; he obtained my parents likewife, by whose I determined to regulate my own. The ardour of his passion, the frequency of his visits, and the charms of his language. I need not describe. But all these were not sufficient to render me happy.

He was dependent on a relation, whose consent was requisite to his making a genteel figure in life: time was required to master this point, and I waited with patience the result of his measures; for Scorus always retained a presence of mind able to encounter

with any accidents, and capable of surmounting any difficulties. However, his affairs took such a happy turn that it seemed probable for him to make me a settlement suitable to my portion, without any affistance from his relation: an advantageous par:nership

offered, which would render him independent. Whilst this was in agitation, I was persuaded to be patient, and assured, that its completion should be followed

with that of my wishes.

A great many difficulties were started, as Scotus told me, which protracted this affair for some months. Being impatient, I had the curiosity to enquire into the nature of those difficulties, which he had hinted at, and sound (can you believe me!) that the articles had been signed upwards of two months! when I saw

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him, I chided; he heard me, finiled down my anger and regained my effects.

After this, several other difficulties were started to re-

before witnesses, declared amongst all his acquaintance,

and determined by feveral letters I have now by me.

fhall haften therefore to my catastrophe,

Scorus being at last left fole master by his partner. and unable to carry on fo extensive a buliness on his own bottom, takes a moneyed man into partnership with him. Some days after executing the writings, he favs to me, " My dear, I have a great fecret to communicate to you; and if you reveal it, will never " fee you any more." 'I promised secrecy; and he oroceeded thus; "On fuch a day I intend to folem. " nize our nuptials, and have got a pretty pair of stone " buckles which I hope you will condescend to wear on " the occasion: to-morrow I will bring them, and will then take you with me to chuse yourself some silks. " or any other odd matter requifite for the occasion. as for furniture, shall let that alone till you come to " my house, and see what is wanting: indeed, I shall want about five hundred pounds, which I intend to " borrow of my partner; but as he is averse to our marriage, I have no other expedient to prevail on " him, but this: to-morrow I'll fend you a letter by " my man, to which you shall reply, That I am a vil-" lain; that you free me from all engagements, and " fet me at liberty to marry whomfoever I pleafe. At " the time you deliver it to the man, bid him tell his " master, he is a villain: so that if my partner should any ways suspect my veracity, when I accquaint him of the diffolution of our courtilip, the man's evidence " will be fufficient to remove all his scruples, and I " shall have the cash without any hesitation."

As my affection for Scotus was too great to give him a denial in any thing, wherein his interest was concerned, I eagerly closed with his proposal, and promised to have my letter ready the next day. My compliance, he said, gave him so great a proof of my affection,

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give t wis , and My of my ction, affection, that he should never forget it, and added, that I should never repent of my compliance. Our marriage was introduced again into the discourse; he spoke a great many kind things; look'd a thousand things more kind; and with reluctance lest me about twelve at night.—This was the last visit he paid me! The next day, as soon as breakfast was over, I sat down to write the answer I had promised; but as deep thought had made a remarkable impression on my

down to write the answer I had promised; but as deep thought had made a remarkable impression on my countenance, my sisters, by their importunities, extorted the cause from me. They are my witnesses, it was with an unwilling obedience I wrote my own sentence. They dissuaded me from it; but in vain. Could I refuse Scorus any thing? had he asked my life, I would have given it him: and at his request I facrificed my happiness to him, which was dearer than life.

The messenger came. I delivered my letter with my own hands, and bade him tell his master, He was a villain. The man stood surprized, and asked me what I said: I repeated again with a louder accent, Tell your master he is a villain: satisfied that he understood my words, he went immediately; and with him went my comfort, my happiness, my all!

Since that fatal day I have received none of Scotus's address. So industrious has he been to merit that title, which he requested me to give him. I have wrote to him—wrote to him with tears! but in his answers, coldness guided his pen, annu persidy dictated his sentences. He has by his own hand signed a resolution never more to renew his courtship, never more to ease my anguish, never more to retrieve his honour!

'Thus have I, through affection, cut that knot, which no foul could have untied; and through a defire of making Scotus my own for ever, fet him at liberty to be for ever another's.

I am,

Mr. CENTINEL's humble fervant,

SYLVIA.

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ANTERCOME STORY OF THE

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No. 47. Tuesday, September 6th, 1757.

Veluti in speculo.

MONG the many opportunities which men have to acquire a knowledge of mankind, I have always confidered the advantage of frequenting coffee-houses to be one of the greatest: a man of a speculative turn may draw more useful observations from what passes at one of these public places of resort, in one week, than he can in a twelvemonth's connection with a large circle of private acquaintance. In private company, every man is expected to bear a part in the conversation, which greatly withdraws his attention from the particularities in the characters of those with whom he converses: but in a coffee-house, you may fit silently, and attend to every individual, and your taciturnity will not be suspected.

The company at each of these houses, for the most part, is composed of different classes of men, which are all united at that grand capital the Bedford. Here stockjobbers, politicians, physicians, metaphysicians, philosophers, wits, sops, gamesters, authors, and critics (the terror of authors) form the various group. Here that dread tribunal, The Court of Criticism is held: at

which GALLICUS fits as prefident.

Tuesday.

GALLICUS is a wit from his residence: he is one of those formidable geniuses called Templars. In the morning, so soon as he rises, he goes to the costee house, where you may see him surrounded with news-papers, and enveloped in observation: there he marks such passages as he thinks the discourse of the day most likely to turn upon, and he meditates a reply to whatever may be said on this subject.

GALLICUS

GALLICUS has sense enough to discover the foibles of mankind: though his endeavours are not fo much to know men, as to be known by all men. He is sensible that any thing particular in behaviour is striking, and draws the attention of the unthinking, who are apt to mistake such an affectation of manners as a mark of latent wisdom. He has therefore practised singularity 'till it is become natural to him. He is called by all who know him, the odd GALLICUS—and he is pleased with the appellation. His whole aim has been directed to acquire

it, and he is happy in the acquisition.

He is not one of those voluble wits who are every minute attempting to be poignant: no, far from it; he avoids loquacity, lest it should lead him to reveal his fentiments, and betray the depth of his understanding; for it is the whole secret of his conduct to appear profound and unfathomable: for this reason he seldom enters into argument, but fits penfive and taciturn, 'till in the course of conversation he has marked some little impropriety of speech, or some inadvertent reflection, which may make way for his well-timed apothegm. When he has spoke, he never fails to wink and simper, 'till one of the company, who knows the meaning of his strange gesticulations, hails the joke; and then the rest join in the laugh, and admire the driness of his wit. Alk you where it lies? not in the words-you may fearch 'till the Greek calends and not find it-they have no meaning—the wit lies in their utterance by an oddity, after an odd manner. Why I have known him gain the applause of a company for a whole evening, only by repeating three words after another man, with a quaint tone of voice, accompanied with a fignificant wink. Whether it is the gift of Nature, or acquired by Art, is hard to determine; but GALLICUS is so happy in his countenance that you may read fomething like wit in his face, though he fays nothing.

But these are the least of his pretentions. GALLICUS is heir to Wit in the collateral line: nay, he is faid formerly to have wrote a letter or two in the news-paper himself: and then he has studied (you have his own

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word for it) nine hours every day for feveral years past. After this, dispute his being a wit you who dare.

Here the debauched CLODIO makes his appearance. Who would take CLODIO for a married man? but to his shame, the world knows he is. His wife had beauty -he feeks for no other perfection in a woman. CLODIO was distracted to possess her: she inflamed his eagerness by opposition-he could not conquer her virtue. What was to be done? her birth was low, and her education mean; no matter-Clodio must enjoy her at any rate—he desperately married her. The ardour of his passion soon abated; and satisted with her charms, he resolved to bury her from the world: he confined her to a convent, but the laws of his country obliged him to restore her to her liberty. Reduced to the disagreeable alternative of either living with her, or allowing her a separate maintenance, he affectionately made choice of the latter. It is sufficient that she is his wife, for him to detest her: had she been his mistres, CLODIO would have adored her.

There is not a prostitute in town but is familiar with CLODIO, and he glories in the familiarity. The whole business of his life is sensuality; and all his conversation is obscenity. With what pleasure he relates the successful progress of his amours, and expresses his raptures, that the criss of his joy is near at hand. The wishedfor hour comes—his mistress yields—and CLODIO has the mornification to recede, without enjoying the fruits of her compliance. But it is enough—he has the glory of debauching her mind. But let the unguarded maid beware—for though she may even repose herself in his arms, with security to her person, yet but to look at him is loss of reputation.

Though CLODIO always feems lively, and fu'l of spirits, yet amidst all his forced gaiety he is restless and miserable.

At the bottom of an advertisement, inserted daily in the news-papers, by one J. O. is an admirable nota bene, by which he promises a cure for a most tormenting disorder, to which age is incident: and I seriously recommend CLODIO to his care: for though he is young,

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yet as he has anticipated the effects of age by his incontinence, I advise him by all means to avail himself of the remedy.

The narrow limits of my paper will not suffer me to present the reader with many other portraits, not less ridiculous than GALLICUS, nor less vicious than CLODIO: but from these he may learn, that Affectation is so sar from being a mark of Wisdom, that the discerning always esteem it as the mark of Ignorance: and that the paths of Sensuality are so far from directing the debauchee to real Pleasure, and true Renown, that they lead him quite distant from the road to virtuous Fame, and tranquil Felicity, and draw him into the vale of Misery and Contempt.

If any think themselves injured by these descriptions, let them not be offended at the author—but carefully compare the copy with the original; and when they find the likeness, their detestation of the similitude, will, I hope, produce such an alteration of conduct, as for the

future will afford a most amiable contrast.

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No. 48. Saturday, September 10th, 1757.

Sensit Alexander testa cum vidit in illa Magnum habitatorem quanto felicior hic qui Nil cuperet quamqui totum sibi posceret orbem.

JU-VENAL.

SIR. To the CENTINEL.

HERE was a time when in every wealthy family, a bell rung at noon to fay, dinner is upon the table, and invite all that were within the found. This was the old hospitality of our country; but as the honest Antigallican* fays, fince we have become Britons, we have forgot that we are ENGLISHMEN.

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The letter of our cultoms may remain when their spirit is lost. The bell still rings in many a noble house; but high walls and fierce mastiffs, and French footmen and Swifs porters, deny accels to those who might fancy they were summoned. The unhospitable gates never open to the indigent, rarely to the worthy: for who now dines with the great, that wants or that deserves it?

The call reaches no farther than the circle of domestics; let its sound be confined to the same place. Is there any reason that the noise should not be kept within the bounds of his honour's walls, fince his hospitality never exceeded those limits? need a whole neighbourhood be informed by found of bell, that Mr. What's his name is going to dinner? or upon what authority has he the insolence to disturb a thoufand people, who has not the humanity to invite one of them?

I affure you, Mr. CENTINEL, I write from what I feel; and as there is no shame in honest poverty, I fhall not blush to own it. Permit me to tell you my real fituation; and you will find the complaint rifes

neither from impertinence nor envy.

'Upon the word of a clergyman, I am honoured with that order; nor have I in fix-and-forty years difgraced it unless by the holes in my robe. indeed were so numerous many years ago, that they gave occasion for the wits to call me Parson Cullender. ' I studied in my younger days to qualify myself for preferment: but I mistook my talents: I imagined, that the clergyman who understood his office, was

what men call an able divine; but that title I have fince found, fignifies one who is able to live like his

patron; and this I could not reach, being in part hindered by my health, and in part by my conscience. I have long fince, you may imagine, been a bishop in my hopes; nay, I have arrived at the dignity of a prebendary by promise : but finding myself unqualified for deferving more from the great than the promife of fuch things, I have long fince given up all these kind of expectations. I live as unknown in the world

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world as if I had not a name: and as content (that let me be bold to fay) as if the king had dignified it with a title. My employment is doing out-door duty

with a title. My employment is doing out-door duty for curates and clerks in orders, of the rich parishes, in bad weather; and my allowance, moderate as they

make it, is almost sufficient for my expence. I desire but one meal a day; and cloaths cost me very little, for I am never called upon to officiate but before or

after day-light.

One would think a man that defires fo little, and gets very near as much, had a right to live in peace; especially as he keeps so many in idleness: but the tranquility I had long enjoyed is now broken, and disturbed daily by the offence of which I have complained in the beginning of this letter.

For the convenience of being near the parish of Saint George, I have resided two-and-twenty years in Darkling-alley, Swallow-street. You will image to yourself the room and surniture, without my describing either: but to such a pitch of heroic contentment had I brought myself by philosophy, innocence and religion, that I slept sound, and waked chearful in this poor apartment; and when I welcomed some evening visiter in the same circumstance, have often received him with

Aude, hospes, contemnere opes, et te quoque dignum Finge Deo.

As the evening calls me to my duty, the afternoon I have accustomed myself to spend in study; and I have been used to enjoy that feast without interruption. The lighter my preceeding meal, the clearer my faculties: and often has this food of the soul made me forget the want of that for the body.

But, sir, these days of happiness are at an end. A person who has in trade acquired the fortune of a lord, has taken a house in one of these largest streets, whose back extends to our territories. A duke, who before lived there, never gave me any disturbance. Either he taught his family to know their hours, or

the fummons was rung within doors; but our new inhabitant

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inhabitant has hung up a huge bell over his stables; and at four this rings to say, Himself is sitting down

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to dinner: at five it founds again, by way of grace

to the second table; and in half an hour more, for the rabble of the kitchen.

Now, fir, the peace of my life is wholly destroyed by this clamorous innovation. I have my reasons not

to remove; and what is to be my redress I know not, unless I may expect it from you: tell my lordly neigh-

bour nothing can be fo cruel as the putting people in

mind of dinner who have nothing to eat; and that if

he will cause this bell to be rung, he ought to let in all that hear it; it is unsitting and unnatural that so ho-

fpitable a found should be in its effect so cruel.
In a fair season, or slackness of business from any

other cause, when I have read my dinner in SENECA,
and as perfectly forgot hunger as if Nature had given

' man no such appetite, I am startled by this found;

when I have just got my philosophical tea before me in a page of St. AUSTIN, the second alarm breaks in

upon me; and by that time I am beginning to recover

from the third, the parish-boy, as starved as myself,

and almost as tattered, raps at my door for the duty of the evening. Study and contemplation are all I

require: 'tis hard these should be denied me. Can it

be just or reasonable, fir, that he who indulges no

part but the foul, should be at the mercy of one

whom Fortune, perhaps Fraud, have set at a giddy height, and who never found out that he had any

height, and who never found out that he had an thing but body.

Tell the earthworm he is poor; for riches truly exist in contentment: bid him respect his betters,

though the same Fortune have dressed them in rags,

or lodged in lofts and garrets: inform him, that by this dishonest noise, he is guilty of a robbery, though

out of the letter of our laws; for that my peace and

fatisfaction are as much my own, as his plate and

jewels, and of as much value.

I desire no more than I have, and human nature never had less; remind him that he ought in justice to leave me in the possession of it; and add, for it is

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true, that he may then look upon this DIOGENES with the eyes of ALEXANDER; owning with that fovereign

of the world, how much he is excelled in happiness by one who does not condescend to wish for riches.

W best and liend gold for Yours, be.

J. L.



Politicard to a contract politican relating to check,

No. 49. Tuesday, September 13th, 1757.

Siquæret pater urbium
Substribi statuis, indomitam audeat
Refrænare licentiam.

HOR.

S I was passing along the streets a few days ago, I was unavoidably witness to a scene with which I was most disagreeably affected. A rude mob were gathered around some ballad singers, one of whom carried a figure feated in a chair, and which was intended to represent the person of the French king. It was dreffed in all the fantastic modes which could be contrived to make it ridiculous, and excite the laughter of the populace: but not content to raife their mirth by dumb show, they sung a song, which was a vulgar kind of burlesque, adapted to ridicule the meagre emaciated figure which they bore aloft in the chair. I was difpleased, but not surprized, at a practice of this fort in an uncivilized multitude, but I was aftonished to observe this low kind of mummery applauded by feveral, whose appearance seemed to denote that they were of more than middling station in life.

No man has a greater detestation against the French, on account of their daring persidious attempts, than myself; nor would any one more readily concur in chastising these soes to peace and honor: but though it is a duty which we owe to our king and country, to treat them as enemies, it is at the same time a justice which we owe to ourselves, to behave like men. We

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ought to imitate the amiable moderation of our gracious fovereign, who, while he denounced war against the French king and his subjects, at the same time assured those, within the British dominions, that while they demeaned themselves well they should be intitled to his

protection.

Possibly, it may not be politic at this time to check, or controul such a wrong-directed spirit among the vulgar: as they always act from passion, instead of reason, it may be right to permit them to vent their violence in their own preposterous manner, lest their ardor should subside, and leave them cool in the desence of their country at this alarming period. But those of higher class, who have had the benefit of education, should entertain more rectified notions; they should be sensible, that though it is an indispensible obligation on them to resent, and revenge the hostile attempts of these natural foes to Britain; that yet, notwithstanding, they ought to differ from the brutal multitude, both in the manner of their resentment and the measure of their revenge.

To make a crowned head the subject of mockery is an insult on royalty in general; and though we should detest, and by all possible means annoy any potentate, who is at enmity with our sovereign and his subjects, yet we ought not to vilify or ridicule majesty. The person of a monarch is not a theme for burlesque; for though we owe no obedience to foreign powers, yet we owe them respect as brothers to the sovereign to whom

we are bound to pay allegiance.

All verbal invectives, all infults by mimic gesticulations, are unbecoming the dignity of a man: great souls war with the enemy, and not the man; they can distinguish between a resolution to procure just reparation, and a mean design of gratifying malevolence, by ignoble, unmanly resentment: they will exert their fortitude to obtain retribution for injuries sustained, but they will not do injustice to their own characters, by a misguided and unworthy retaliation: they will soften their indignant rage with the mildness of humanity, and temper just revenge with christian-like forgiveness: as they are more

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nice and tender of their honor than the vulgar, fo are

they more susceptible of clemency and pity.

They who are not moved without cause, are more readily appealed, than those who are offended, they know not why; for what terms of accommodation can be proposed to a man who does not know wherein he has been injured? this is the case with regard to the precipitate mob; they know not wherefore they are irritated, and the object of their blind fury will therefore find them inexorable.

But though it may not at this time be prudent to damp their intemperate heat, yet in a nation of liberty like ours, the wrong-directed spirit and insolent raillery of the multitude is greatly to be dreaded, if not timely restrained; for the most precarious event will alter their dispositions, and render them as virulently seditious against the friends of their country, as they are now acrimoniously vindictive against its enemies. Let but the spirit of faction and sedition whisper in the softest firain of discontent, and they will be as forward to carry the effigy of their best benefactor in mock procession. as they are now to bear that of LE wis the fifteenth ..

This propenfity to Rude Infult among the populace should be checked in all governments. In absolute monarchies it should be curbed, lest it should gain an afcendant, and destroy the power of the crown; in limitted monarchies, fuch as ours, where Liberty flourishes in the full bloom of political felicity, it ought to be no less confined, lest it should subvert the happy constitution which inspires its licentious vigor, and with unbounded frenzy riot into excess of anarchy. The vulgar, rude as they are, are to be guided with a thread, before they grow warm in their career; but when they are in the full speed of motion, the sharpest curb will not check their impetuolity.

It is the office therefore of the cool and temperate to direct their motions; and the index to which the majority will infallibly attend-is Example: let those, therefore, who have opportunities of judging in public and national affairs, form their conclusions with impartial judgment, and impart their opinions with honest candor.

Let no false pride, or mean ambition, tempt them to bely the convictions of their conscience, and mislead those who blindly and implicitly confide in their determinations. Let them inspire the ardor of opposition. wherever they judge it necessary, that its spirit should pervade; but when they attempt to rouze a turbulent paffion in unruly breafts, they should at the same time endeavour to direct the manner of its operation : or the fire which they have indifcreetly kindled, will blaze beyond all power of extinction.

As we have all along, during the whole course of the contest, in which the French have infidiously engaged us, fliewn ourselves superior to them in reason and argument, fo let us prove ourselves above them in breeding and magnanimity. Let us oppose and chastize them like men, and not mock and vilify them like

women. Value symmetry right to signed Inactive reproach and contumely, is the mark of a daftard effeminate spirit : let Britons disdain to incur the impuration of fuch pufilanimity: let them carry their farcasm in their swords, not in their tongues: let them prove the imbecility and unimportance of the French king and his fubjects, on the ocean and in the field; and not meanly attempt to make him the mark of contempt, by exposing a fantastic figure, equipped in all the mimic modes of vulgar imagination, through the streets of London. We are marked throughout Europe for folidity: let us vindicate our characters, and leave fuch childish revenge to our trisling enemies. web solution its benitious rigaly and with unbergeded



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No. 50. Saturday, September 17th, 1757.

Felices errore fuo.

LUCAN.

To the CENTINE L.

Like your paper; because you strike on the general subjects which are every day before us; and am not forry that you but seldom touch upon politics; for really they are at best but uncertain affairs; and even in the late affair of the embarkation; I don't know whether the delay has not been providential, even though we have lost a few thousand pounds by transport contracts and victualling jobbs; for you see the weather is now calm and settled; whereas, had our 100, 90 and 80 gun ships, been on the coast of France in the hurricane of last Sunday se'nnight, I fear the whole expedition would have been abortive, with the additional loss perhaps of half a score men of war, and as many transports.—What says Mr. Pope on all human disappointments?

And, 'Spite of Pride, in erring Reason's 'Spite, One truth is clear, whatever is, is right.

But I designed giving you a hint of what I am sure you have not yet touched upon, and which I think very necessary; and this is, that fevere education, and the pursuit of science, seems all at an end, and books of novels and pleasantry, which don't satigue the mind, are all the reigning mode.

Formerly every great house building, or built, had a particular room set apart for a study or library—there is no such thing now! for if there is a room larger than ordinary, it is a million to one if it is not a dancing room—at least, the ladies of the house call

rday,

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But if there is a room fet apart by that name now, which is sometimes, though not often the case, what does it confid of? - China jars upon brackets,

bulloes at the angles of every pediment; bronzes over

every chimney, and fire-arms in the shapes of fun.

' moon and stars, in every pannel.

- I was visiting the other morning at a friend's house. when the following colloquy passed between a venerable mathematical teacher and a very fine lady, in relation to her foolish eldest son, who sate by, with his fluft gloves and target on, and a foil in his hand, in expectation of his fencing-maller every minute. You will foon find the lady is an upflart, though rich

as a Jewels.

" Lady. Sir, I hear you are very notified in your " way for teaching mathematics. That is my fon, " there-and a most ingenious boy he is-his dancing-" mafter and fencing-mafter give him fuch a character that it would please you to hear them speak his praises, "He danced a minuet in three months—and he speaks
"French like a native.—Pray, try him;—he will " have a vast fortune—for I was an heiress—pray examine him.

" Master. Madam, I had rather not; unless it was in something more effential to his welfare and happi-" ness than any of the fludies you mention. - If you " call them by that name, I do not-they are but " ornaments at best-are the embroidery to the coat-" but that alone would not keep him warm, Madam. " Lady. Lord, fir, you are the only man that ever

fpoke against the liberal arts! I am mistaken, I find, " and must find out another.

" Master. You are very welcome, madam; for I should not chuse to teach science where such trisses " bear the name of liberal arts.

" Lady. Well, fir, I warrant you there are masters " enough in your way-though I never shall suit myself " with fuch excellent ones as I have now for the other " studies .- But pray, fir, before we part (if we do " part) pray what may your terms be? I should like to

know how you rate yourfelf, however.

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" Master. Why, madam, five guineas a month, and ten guineas entrance-I have oftener more " than less ---- nor does any one of my acquaintance

" dispute it, when the great uses of mathematics are " properly confidered.

" Lady. Ha, ha, ha! well I fhall laugh all " day, I find — Ha, ha, ha, — five guineas a month, and ten guineas entrance — Ha, ha, ha, — Why, " I pay my dancing-master but a little more than that "-Ha, ha, ha,—who comes in his chariot like a

" gentleman.

" Master. Madam, I see you are disposed to be " fashionable-and so adieu.-I would not teach your " fon for twenty guineas a month—and an 100l. en-" trance. - A person who will prefer the heels to the " head shall never have me a preceptor in their house." ----And fo they parted.

'The old gentleman flapped his hat (as it rained) when at the same time the dancing-master and fencingmaster came in sedan chairs, and rudely shoved by him, as though he was the dun of some honest tradesman. This affair happened last week in fight of the dial, and within the found (of course) of St. man. James's palace clock, on the 7th of September, in the year of our Lord 1757; which ought to be put down in the lift of the almanac remarkables, more than half which are there.

other in the world La Your conflant readen, 1919

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o from berely earned, the other day, to pay my lend-

Mr. CENTINEL,

Plourished and lived well, till my wife, who before marriage, was the greatest coquet living, and the most careless about any life but the present, all of a sudden turned methodist. I had rather of the two she had turned a gamester, a drunkard, and even worse; for now I see ruin equally before, me; and as in the former cases I should have gained a little pity, onow if I fail, I shall rather, I fear, be laughed at. ' My house, which was once a picture to look at, is X 2

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now never clean. If I feem to be uneafy at it, the immediate answer is, " what fingifies an earthly manif fion? fix your mind on an heavenly one, and never concern yourself about such trifles, poor worm!"
Well, all of a sudden the sishmongers, the poulterers, the butchers shops, are ransacked for a magnificent entertainment, and the pastry-cooks, confectioners and fruiterer, in their turn, for a defert equivalent to it. I of course expect some worthy family is invited, who may be of fervice to me in my way of trade, when to my surprise, in comes a solitary priest with my wife, fays a prayer over the feast (at which I whet my knife, thinking as the showmen, that we are just going to begin away) and then telling us that Luxury is the reverse of Christianity, like SANCHO's wand, with a beckon, he orders all away to beggars, prifoners, &c. &c. and in their room has bread and butter, rice-milk, &c. &c. fet before us, with high commen-

dations of Temperance and Frugality. " Mr. CENTINEL, I am no enemy to Temperance and Frugality; but why must I first be at all this expence! if I tell them I shall be nothing less than a bankrupt, they cry, "God send you may! missortunes are proofs of your being his elect, and even a jail is " a paradife, compared to the torments of the prison hereafter, and happy is he who is so prepared for the other in the world to come, by first having one here." Pretty comfort this! Mr. CENTINEL: I laid by a fum, hardly earned, the other day, to pay my landlord; next day it was gone: I was in hopes I was forbed in the common way, if robbed at all, and that I might get some of it back again, or punish the delinquents; but, alas! my wife's confessor had taken it to help on the propagation of the gospel, or build tabernacles with it. Sure charity should begin at home! What is to become of us! for all my children are ragged, while strangers are cloathed in rich array, and fare very fumptuoufly every day. When I talk of laying up fortunes for them, I am piously answered, " not to take any thought for tohopes,

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hopes, and had invited a friend to eat a blade-bone of a shoulder of mutton with me, I was told "it was gone to the poor; and that he who feedeth the poor lendeth to the Lord." This is my unhappy situation. I should have been a rich man had my wife been like the ladies of St. James's, who only spend a few odd guineas, or perhaps shillings, at eards, while I (by means of a religious wife) squander thousands; for I think it may be called so, when not one of the persons relieved is expected to be grateful, and they cry, so it ought to be; that proves the charity real, as there are no hopes of a return.

Your humble Servant,

or mid gubroller shrawer exembledom ERCATOR.

HENCEFORWARD, The CENTINEL will be published every morning (except Sunday) in the daily paper, intitled, The CITIZEN.

SOME TERESTAL DE

No. 51. Monday, September 19th, 1757.

The rabble gather round the man of news
And listen with their mouths.

Some tell, some bear, some judge of news, some make it,
And he that lies most loud is most believ'd.

DRYDEN'S Spanish Friar.

YESTERDAY I received the following letter from my Cousin SENTRY, which without further introduction I offer my reader for this day's amusement.

DEAR COUSIN, COVERLEY-HALL, Sept. 14th, 1757.

IN my last I gave you a list of the neighbouring gentlemen with whom I dined at the bowling green meeting, and among the rest mentioned 'squite TAD-POLE, who is to be the subject of this letter. At the X 3

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breaking out of this war there broke out in him fuch a rage for politics that his friends apprehended his reason to be in danger, and upon my settling here requested I would be so kind as to reason with him upon the folly of fuch a passion, and the ill consequence the indulgence of it might produce. For this purpose I paid him a visit, and in course of conversation told him, that if he gave way to that extravagance much longer, his relations would be under the disagreeable necessity of suing for a commission of Lunacy against The fear of becoming a ward of the court of Chancery, and having the conduct of his fortune put into strange hands, contributed more than all the endeavours of his acquaintance towards restoring him to his fenses; insomuch that for several days he continued a tolerable companion, would talk reasonably upon common occurrences, and could even read a journal without any extraordinary emotion.

But alas! to his great misfortune, and my no small concern, Mr. TADPOLE's phrenzy is returned, and affects him with more violence than ever. The first fymptoms of this relapse appeared about a month ago that he was in London, when his sleep was observed to be uncommonly uneasy; he arose much earlier than usual, and immediately went with great precipitation, especially on Saturdays, to a neighbouring coffeehouse, where his impatience for the public papers frequently got the better of his natural complaifance and good manners. Sometimes he would huddle as many as he could get together, place himfelf in some remote corner of the room, and would not be prevailed on to part with one till he had read them all, though twenty persons were waiting for them. At other times, if he met with a furious declamation against the ministry, a subject to which he was remark d to pay a more particular attention, the whole company were obliged to hear it repeated by him, with additional comments on the justice of the abuse.

The general fear that he would draw upon himself many inconveniences, induced his friends to join in their persuasions that he would return into the country; our intreaties succeeded, and the greatest care has been

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taken to prevent his coming at the light of any newspaper, but unfortunately one evening upon a visit to the curate (for the living is too good a one to engage the relidence of the rector, who rather chuses to mind the duties of his prebendship in London) he unfortunately, I fay, having behaved pretty well for about ten days, met with a distinguished Evening Post that happened accidentally to enclose some ribbands and other baubles imported into the country: he fnatched it with great eagerness, and when he went home, appeared greatly confused; for some hours he continued traverling his hall with lengthened halty frides, and was heard to mutter, "aye, I knew it " would be fo; ___ poor England ___ ministers __ " halters - men - measures," and many fuch incoherencies, in a tone that expressed a mixture of despair and vehemence.

Madmen as well as knaves have their degrees of cunning, which they fail not to make use of with great diligence for the attainment of their wishes. Being fully resolved to gratify his passion for news, he found means to render ineffectual all our precautions to prevent it. The barber of a country village is not looked upon as a person of the least consquence in it; to him Mr. TADPOLE applied, sure of not being resulted any savour he condescended to ask: since which he is regularly supplied with all the papers by a correspondent of this barber's, who thereby has the honour of enjoying the 'squire's sole considence; an

'honour that promises at present to be not a little detrimental to the poor man's family.

At Mr. TADPOLE's delire, I last week took a ride to Tadpole-hall, which is about six miles from Coverley: on my arrival my friend received me with seeming chearfulness and composure; we passed the afternoon very agreeably, and with particular pleasure I observed that he made no enquiries about public affairs: but towards evening he began to grow somewhat uneasy: about eight o' clock he inveighed strongly against the dilatoriness of stage-coachmen: and as soon as supper was over he very civilly desired

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haps I might be tired with my ride.

I could not help being at first somewhat surprized at this sudden change in Mr. TADPOLE's behaviour:

the occasion of which, as I afterwards was informed. was owing to his having heard of the arrival of the

coach: however I acquiesced, and retired; and he made all possible speed to his consident, the barber,

with whom he found a packet of news-papers, the f perusual and remarking upon which busied him till

about two in the morning.

Being up fooner than the rest of the family, and finding the door of the study open, I thought to s amuse myself with reading till called upon for break-

falt: the first object that struck me was, that instead of that neatness and regularity with which he used to

keep his books, to see them scattered up and down. and the whole room in perfect disorder; but I was

much more amazed to find upon the table feveral " written papers folded up like lawyers' briefs, and en-

dorsed Sejanus, the Spencers, Gaveston, Suffolk,

Wolfey, Buckingham, Cabal, &c. &c. On another ' part of the table lay a parcel of letters directed to

' Mr. ____ near ____ : as I had never suspected

my friend's diforder had arrived at fo great a height as to induce him to commence author, curiofity pre-

vailed over good manners, and I ventured to examine his lucubrations. From the former of thele I

found he had employed himself in searching history,

as well antient as modern, for weak administrations and wicked ministers, merely for the sake of making

'invidious comparisons. The latter were severally

" figned Probus, Honestus or Britannicus, and were

calculated to load the ministry with all the odium of our late miscarriages.

While I was thus employed, Mr. TADPOLE himfelf came in, and with an air of confusion said, "well,

" friend, I perceive you have discovered me, nor shall

" I make any fecret to you of my defign in these " writings. You know what fad times we live in;

" should you call a great man a rogue or rascal by name, it

is fifty to one but that he will try to punish you by is law: 0. 51.

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" law: it is necessary that somebody should watch for the public, and endeavour to open the eyes of the people. This task I have voluntarily taken upon myself; the Monitor is a spirited paper, and I intend to make use of that channel for carrying my observations upon bad ministers. As to the letters, you see where they are directed, and I have had the pleasure of seeing some of my communications in print."

I heard him with great calmness, and considering this as a lucid interval, was once about endeavouring to argue with him; but being interrupted by a summons to breakfast, had only an opportunity of observing to him, that in my opinion, should any body be inclined to sue for a commission, those very papers and letters would be sufficient evidence to justify any

' jury in finding him a Lunatic.

Breakfast over, another and a more melancholy consequence of my friend's infatuation offered itself to my notice. Having, in order to dress for dinner, occasion for the barber, his wife came and made an apology for his not attending himfelf, and defired to ' speak with me in private; to which I readily confented; when the poor woman told me, that the neighbours all infifted that her husband was mad, that no body would be shaved by him, and that she was afraid she and her five children must come to the parish. I enquired into the supposed cause of his madness, and how long he had been affected with it; her reply was, that he was as good a man and as well beloved as any one in the country, till 'squire TAD-POLE last came down; but, to use her own expression, that fince those cursed news-papers came to their house, he has never been his own man: that he is now always railing at the times, though, thank God, lays the, we live well enough; and that no longer ago than the preceding Wednelday, being at market he ' had occasioned a general tumult, by giving out, that a French fleet was come as high as Staines bridge, and would be at Oxford the next day, where they were to be joined by twenty thousand Frenchmen landed at a lea-port town in Bedfordshire.

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I did intend to have offered a few reflections upon the above cases; but fearing I have already tref. passed on your patience, shall for the present conclude

with affuring you that you may believe me,

Your affectionate kinsman, and humble servant,

ROGER COVERLEY SENTRY.



No. 52. Tuesday, September 20th, 1757.

Parva leves capiunt animos

OVID.

To the CENTINEL.

SIR. Y case is truly melancholy, if you knew all; I am going to be facrificed in marriage, to an old fully, plain-shirted, worsted stocking tradesman, and don't know how I shall be able to · escape the snare my father has laid for me-If I marry against his consent, I fear he will never forgive me; and confent, I cannot, where he would have me; fo that, unless you can throw out a letter into the world against cruel and unkind parents, I shall, as surely as I now live, be found in Rosamond's Pond some Spring morning, or pendant in my garters on a tree near it. My love, Mr. CENTINEL (and I may furely truk you with the fecret) though only a dancing-mafter, is the sweetest, the neatest, and compleatest of all human creatures. Every day he smells of a different scented water; he wears a white frock, red-heel'd shoes, carries a tall stick (as miss Lucy fays, to knock any one down who infults me) and has his hair dressed every day after a new manner by his charming fervant, whom he calls his valet de chambre-no common English skip I affure you.

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But, what I cannot relift, is his delightful method of dancing, and his mincing French words with his English so prettily, that one would really think they were made one for the other - Lord! Mr. CEN-TINEL, what must the French be, if these, who only endeavour to imitate them, are so charming? They talk of the French coming over to conquer us; it will be an eafy conquest, I am sure, if my fex are like me; and fure we have absolute power over one man, if not more: and when we are all united and fincere, who can oppose the dear charming creatures? Why, if they come, they won't kill us; they love our fex I hear; for all their lives are spent in gallantry, and all their books wrote upon love and leve-stories -oh, charming! belides, we shall then have all their fashions at the fift hand, and drink their charming wines, without nafty duties laid on them by my beaftly countrymen, by which means, now, they are only the lot of a few, and a very few, though, thank God, and my papa's purse, I am one of them.

Somebody drank confusion to the French yesterday at our house: I hated him at once, and killed his wise's favourite lap-dog with arsenic at night, because of his impudence. Only think of me, who have simbs and a grace for dancing before a king, and am never to appear but at a city hall or sheriff's feast. If the French come we shall dance always, I hear, and when we are tired, sing: so that every day we shall have diversion enough: the Lord send them here soon, and for this reason—because my dear love is a Frenchman born, though bred here: and if my father does not consent to my having him, I will speak to the commanding officer of the French army to force my father into compliance, or burn his house about his ears; and then, where is he, Mr. CENTINEL?

'The French, I am sure (when they come) can refuse me nothing. I have alway wore their fashions,
and at the head of my father's house promoted their
wines, and made up all their dishes from French
receipts; so that I am sure, they will not use me ill,
if they do not even assist me: then I know enough
of their tongue to ask for what I want—and that shall

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be first to make my father give me monfieur Fromont

for a husband, or take the consequence—for I can further say to them in French, Brules sa Maison,

and, I am fure, they will think themselves safe in

doing it, when his daughter, and only daughter defires it.

However, suppose at first we begin by gentle means, which is publishing a very severe letter against

parents facrificing their daughters to interest, or rather felling them so much a pound (like oxen in Smithfield)

and as he reads the letter at breakfast with pleasure

or pain, so he shall be treated hereafter, by

His most dutiful, and obedient daughter,

Hampstead.

CELIA BUCK.

P. S. I hope we lie on the proper high road, if the French come among us—Lord! to hear M. SAXE'S

minuet played as they march along will be fine.
Their flags, I am told, are all white and filver, like

a bride's wedding-garment. Oh, charming! Adieu.

2CHOLOGA TANGOLOGA

No. 53. Wednesday, September 21st, 1757.

What case af stess and blood I'd please to wear;

I'd be a dig, a monkey, or a bear;

Or any thing but that vain animal,

Who is so proud of being rational.

ROCH.

Which I related in my twenty second paper, I opened the trunk, and sound in it several packets: the first was a small one, containing only a bottle of drops, and a letter dated from ______, and signed by the principal physician, and a justice of peace of

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of the city, informing me that a person had arrived there fometime before, who affumed the title of a graduate phylician, and differfed printed bills, recommending an effence of his own composition, whereof the present bottle is a specimen, as an universal balsam, and an infallible remedy for all diseases, having instantly restored great numbers labouring under the most dangerous diffempers, after being given over by very eminent phylicians: for the truth of this he produces a long string of witnesses, and a catalogue of all the difeafes He had ever heard of, which he afferted, in the most folemn manner, had been all, without exception, radically cured by his incomparable effence. The advertifements and printed bills of this quack wrought highly upon the imagination of the common people; and their faith and expectation being once railed, every diftempered person among them had recourse to this great doctor: but what is more extraordinary, even people of fashion and of quality catched the infection, and were not behind the reft in credulity, for they allo purchased and made use of this essence, with no small confidence of success: but time discovered that its real virtue confifted in shortening man's days: many it killed outright, and has rendered many more unhealthy for life. As few or none were relieved by the doctor, norwithstanding the great assistance his medicine received from the parient's strong faith in him; and as the people were not only cheated of their money but robbed of their health, it was thought it might be of fervice to the public to deliver this universal medicine into the hands of CARTER, who has charged himfelf with the loading of human follies. The letter concludes with complaining heavily, that no effectual method has been hitherto found to prohibit and restrain the most ignorant and knavish quacks from dispensing the most destructive phylic, though such wretches justly deserve the punishment of murderers, for destroying the lives or health's of men with the felonious delign of picking their pockers, under prefence of felling cures for difeifes.

The next packet was larger, and contained a paddedwailtcoat; the owner whereof informs me, that till very lately he has lived in a perpetual state of uneasiness

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of mind, on account of a natural deformity in the make of his shoulders; insomuch that he dreaded the going out of his own honfe, or affociating with company; fo greatly was he disturbed about his hump. When obliged to go abroad, he imagined all eyes were fixed on him; and if he happened to perceive any one looking at him, he blufhed and was confounded, thinking his deformity to be the object of their contempt. He was continually reflecting upon his misfortune, and contriving ways and means to conceal it: for which purpole he sometimes were a monstrous large bag upon the oppolite shoulder, and sometimes stuffed out his cost with a cushion. Upon coming into company he endeavoured to avoid shewing his back, and usually contrived to flick his hump in a corner of the room: but having at length duly confidered his own cafe, he is refolved. for the future, not to think of his misfortune, being fensible that his hump is no difgrace to him, as he did not procure it by any fault of his own; and that the conformation of this part of his body doth not influence the operations of his nobler and immortal part. He knows very well that mean and low people will laugh at, and teaze him; but he is determined to despise all such fools, and will laugh and jest at himself when others are determined to make themselves merry with him. In fhort, he is resolved to think and act as if he had no hump at all; and therefore has willingly resigned his padded-waistcoat to CARTER.

The third packet confifted of a very large manufic ipt, the author whereof, judging it to be an extremely useful and valuable work, imagined that no man, who can read, would be without it; and therefore published proposals for printing it by subscription, that the bookfeller might have a less share in his profits: but after waiting in vain a whole year, for subscribers, he offered the copy to six bookfellers successively, assuring each of them that he was the only one to whom it was offered; and setting forth the peculiar excellencies of the work above all other treatises on the same subject, as being the produce of many years labour and deep meditation. From some of these gentlemen he received no answer; others resulted his offer with civility, excusing them-

The CENTINEL. No. 54. felves from engaging with him, on account of the great works they had already in hand. This so kindled his indignation against them that he represented them to his friends as a fet of mercenary blockheads, who did dot know the value of a good book, and minded only what they ignorantly supposed to be their immediate profit, without any regard to the improvement of knowledge. As a last expedient, he wrote to no less than eight famous authors, to beg they would give him a preface, and recommend him to a bookfeller. application he met with a very unexpected disappointment; for after all the rest had declined the talk, one out of friendship undertook to. shew him that the publication of his work would not be for his honour; this fo ruffled him that he was ready to break off all friendship with the gentleman; but while he was confidering the realons which his friend had layed before him, happening to fee CARTER pals through the street, he fuddenly came to the heroical resolution of throwing his copy, with his own hand, into the cart; thus delivering himlelf from the pride and vanity of being an author, and from his anxiety of mind for the success of his work. Indeed, CARTER was afterwards informed, that when the cart was palt he shewed a little remorfe, and instantly resolved to write me a letter, begging of me to recommend him to my bookfeller; but CARTER driving on, and not hearing him call, he had not time

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Thursday, September 22d, 1757.

Per multas oditum sibi sæpe figuras Repperit-

THE fourth packet which CARTER brought, contained a felect collection of poems upon various occasions, which their author had learned by heart, and entertained all companies with the nauleous repetition of. He even thought them so valuable

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that he presented copies of this collection to several gentlemen and ladies of his acquaintance. A friend happening to be with him, whilst my cart was passing by the window, took up the author's original and gave it to the driver: the poet swore revenge against his friend, and is determined to bring an action at law against him for a robbery.

In a little box I found a watch-chain, a cane-string, a lady's picture, and a withered nosegay, without any account whatever. I conjecture they belonged to a gentleman in love, who being by some strange accident brought to his senses, in token thereof thought proper

to fend me these presents of his fair one.

I now proceed to give my readers an account of the packets belonging to women. In one I found a large book, well preferved and neatly covered. Eagerly turning it over, I perceived it to be a collection of receipts and remedies for most diseases, with the methods of preparing and giving them; and directions for diflilling all forts of spirits and cordial-waters. Between the leaves I found a letter to me from a gentleman, informing me that the book belonged to his wife, and had descended to her as a family-legacy; but that he had privately stole it, and delivered it to CARTER; for which he had feveral justifiable reasons. His wife, he tells me with a heavy heart, had been for fome time extremely good, minded the affairs of her family, and gave him no cause of discontent; but that this cursed book coming into her possession had quite spoiled her, and transformed her into a different creature : for after peruling it the must needs turn doctress. She first began to vifit, in that capacity, the fick in her neighbourhood; prescribing to them according to the directions of this book. He forbears to mention all the mischief she has done by undertaking the cure of difeases of which The was totally ignorant; and the fums of money the Iquandered in preparing her medicines; but what offlicts him much more is, that being a complete miltres of the art of making all forts of drams, the constantly keeps her still employed; and by frequently tasting her compositions, has acquired such a liking to them that the cannot now be without them; and confequently is feldom

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feldom fober. 'Hence,' fays he, 'the affairs of her family are neglected, and her own health destroyed; for the is already grown pale, thin and hagged, and has a confumptive cough, which, shall I say I hope or fear, will foon bring her to the grave; for if she retains her fenses, her memory will readily supply the ' loss of her book, whose directions she has so often ' read and put in practice.' His resentment, he alds, against the cause of all this mischief, is so great, that he would not suffer it to remain under his roof, and therefore fent it to me.

The next thing I found in the trunk was a box, containing several forts of paint, both white and red, a large quantity of patches, a pocket looking-glals,

book, and the following letter:

I Joyfully embrace the present opportunity of delivering all my follies into your hands. I am a gentlewoman, but have no great estate. Nature gave me a fond heart, but neither beauty nor wealth enough to make any man fall in love with me. The supplying my defect of beauty by art hath long employed my thoughts. I spent many hours every day at my toiler, endeavouring to hide the faults, and heighten the beauties of my face, with paint, patches, and other little artifices: but finding them ineffectual, and that, after all my pains, the men rather laugh at than admire me, I determined to fend you all my follies. which I must own have been greatly increased by a constant reading of this famous French treatise upon the art of preferving beauty, wherewith I was highly delighted: but I hope I am now entirely cured of those follies, and am determined to acquire, in their room, such accomplishments as may fit me, though no beauty, to make a good wife. I should despite the man who would have me for nothing but beauty; and am, fir, &c.

CARTER informed me, that one evening, when he inn'd at _____, a young gentlewoman, in a night-dress, delivered him a packet; but when the was gone a little

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little way from him, came back hastily; and with a deep sigh, begged of him to return it to her. CARTER learnt from her maid, 'that the packet contained a 'ring and a letter; both which she received from a 'young nobleman, whilst he was at the university; that the ring he made her a present of, when he gave her a promise of marriage; that in the letter he renews his promise, but that it was not likely he will keep it, notwithstanding all the favours she has granted him.'

I now looked upon my trunk as empty, when CAR-TER produced another letter, and a box containing a bishop's gown and lawn sleeves, which, the letter acquainted us, belonged to a young student in divinity, who having a great opinion of his own abilities, expected to be nominated, in a short time, to some bishopric, and ordered this gown to be made beforehand, that, by wearing it in his chamber, he might accustom himself to it, and see what a noble figure he made in it. But, after pleafing himself some years with these fweet lulling hopes, he found himself obliged to accept of a poor curacy, where fuch a drefs would by no means fuit him. He now laments his folly, and the unnecessary expence he put himself to; and, to shew his true contrition, fends me his episcopal habit; to be returned him whenever he may really want it.

Mr. CARTER desires my leave to have drawings made of this his first loading; and to dispose of the prints in his suture expeditions; but of this I shall farther consider; though he has already been pleased to sit for his own picture, with all the insignia of his office about him.



CHEROMODICATION

No. 55. Friday, September 23d, 1757.

Garrulus hunc quando consumet cumque. Loquaces Si sapeat, vitet.

To the CENTINEL.

I HAVE read in TAVERNIER, or some other traveller, of an English merchant who was cured of an inveterate gout, by a severe bastinado prescribed by a Turkish chians in his return to Constantinople with the head of an unfortunate bachau. It was, doubtless, a severe remedy, and not very easily administered; but it proved so effectual that the patient never sailed, during the remainder of his life, to drink every day to the health of his musselman-physician. Though I never underwent such painful application, I myself have been cured of a bad habit by a very unpalatable medicine; to use the phrase of Shakespear, a certain person gave me the bastinado with his tongue.

'You must know I am a middle-aged man in good circumstances, arising from the profits of a creditable profession which I have exercised for many years, with equal industry and circumspection. At the age of twenty-fix I married the daughter of an eminent apothecary, with whom I reclived a comfortable 'addition to my fortune; the honey-moon was scarce over when we mutually found ourselves mismatched: ' she had been educated in notions of pleasure; and I had flattered myself that she would be contented with domestic enjoyments, and place among that number the care of her family: for my own part, I had been used to relax myself in the evening from the fatigues of the day, among a club of honest neighbours who had been long acquainted with one another. The ' conversation

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conversation was sometimes enlivened by quaint fallies and fly repartee; but politics formed the great topic · by which our attention was attracted like the needle by the pole; on this subject I had the vanity to think I was looked upon as a kind of oracle by the fociety; I had carefully perused RAPIN's history, together with the present state of Europe, and pored over maps, until I knew ad unguem the fituation of all the capital cities in Christendom. This branch of learn. ing was of great consequence to the members of our club, who were generally fo little acquainted with geography, that I have known them mistake the Danube for a river of Asia, and Turin for the metro. polis of Tuscany. I acquired some reputation by describing the course of the Ohio, in the beginning of our American troubles; and I filled the whole club with astonishment by setting to rights one of the members, who talked of croffing the fea to Scotland. During a suspension of foreign intelligence, we sported in puns, conundrums and merry conceits, we would venture to be moffensively waggish in bantering each other; we sometimes retailed extempore witticisms, which between friends, we had studied through the ' day; and we indulged one or two fenior fellows in their propensity to record the adventures of their vouth. In a word, we constituted one of the most · peaceful and best affected communities in this great metropolis. See all him a mis I won

But the comforts of this and all other club-conversation were in a little time destroyed by a stranger,
whom one of the members introduced into our society;
he was a speculative physician who had made his fortune by marrying a wealthy dowager, now happily
in her grave. The essence of all the disputants,
gossips and attornies of three centuries, seemed to
enter into the composition of this son of Asculaprus; his tongue rode at sull gallop like a country
man-midwise; his voice was loud, flat and monotonous, like the clack of a mill, or rather like the sound
produced by a couple of shils on a barn floor; our
ears were threshed most unmercifully; we supposed he
was an adept in all the arts depending upon m dicine;

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and a politician of course, by the courtely of England; but all subjects were slike to this universalist, from the most fublime metaphysics to the mystery of pin-making: he disputed with every one of us on our feveral professions, and silenced us all in our turns; not that he was mafter of every theme on which he ' pretended to expatiate; on the contrary, we foon difcovered him to be superficial and misinformed in divers articles, and attempted to refute what he had advanced by breaking out into divers expressions of dissent, ' fuch as, "but pray, fir,-I beg your pardon, fir,-" give me leave, fir,-I will venture to fay you are " misinformed in that particular;" and other civil checks of the same nature; but they had no effect upon this hard-mouthed courfer, except that of stimulating him to proceed with redoubled velocity: he feemed both deaf and blind to the remonstrances and chagrin of the company; but dashed through thick and thin, as if he had undertaken to harangue by inch of candle. We were so overborne by the tide of his loquacity, that we fat for three successive evenings half petrified with aftonishment and vexacion. Sometimes we were cheared with a glimple of hope that this torrent would foon exhaust itself; but, alas! we found him a peren-' nial source of noise and disputation. I could not help repeating with HORACE,

Rusticus expectat dum defluat amnis: at ille Labitur et labetur in omne volubilis ævum.

The most provoking circumstance of this nusance was, that he did not speak either for the entertainment or information of the company: he had no other view but that of displaying his own superiority in point of understanding; his aim was to puzzle, to perplex and to triumph; and by way of manifesting his wit, he extracted a wretched quibble from every hint, motion, or gesticulation of the society. Overhearing one of the members summing up the reckoning, he denied that five and three made eight, and undertook to prove the contrary by mathematical demonstration. When I called for a bowl of puneb, he affirmed there was no such thing in nature; that bowls were made of porcelain, earthenware, wood or metals; but they

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could not be made of punch which was a liquid, ergo, I had confounded the majus with the minus; for omne majus in se continet minus. An honest gentleman who fat by the fire, having burned his fingers with a hot poker, the doctor affured him that the accident was altogether an illusion; that fire did not burn, and that he could not feel pain which was not a substance but a mode; ergo, not cognizable by the fense of

touching. and an interest to reflict wheat he man bear a stour As we were naturally quiet and pacific, and in truth, overawed by the enormous length of his sword, as well as by his profound skill in the art of manslaying (the fellow is an Irishman) which he did not fail to promulgate, we patiently submitted to the scourge of his impertinence, praying heartily that he might fucceed so far in his profession as to become a practiling doctor. Sometimes we enjoyed an intermission for half an evening, congratulating ourselves upon the deliverance, and began to resume our old channel of conversation, when all of a sudden he would appear like the Gorgon's head, then every countenance fell, and every tongue was filent: his organ forthwith began to play, and nothing was heard but his eternal clapper; it was not discourse which he uttered, but a kind of talkation (if I may be allowed the expression) more diffonant and difagreeable than the glass alarmbell of a wooden clock, that should ring four and twenty hours without intermission. To support ourselves under this perpetual annoyance, we had recourse to an extraordinary pint, and smoked a double proportion of tobacco; but these expedients instead of diminishing, served only to increase the effect of his clamour. Our tempers were gradually foured; we grew peevish to every body, but particularly sullen and morose to the doctor, who far from perceiving the cause of our disgust, believed himself the object of our esteem and admiration; he was too much engroffed by his own impertinence, to observe the humours of other men.

For three long months did we bear this dreadful visitation; at length the oldest member, who was indeed the nest egg, died, and the other individuals

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als gan began to drop off. Nothing could be more difagree-' able than the fituation to which I was now reduced; I was engaged in fatiguing business all day, out of humour all the evening, went home at midnight extremely ruffled, with the head-ach, heart-burn and hiccup, and ruminated till morning on my family difcomforts. Upon recollecting all thefe circumstances, I pitied my own condition, and my compassion was foon changed into contempt. This rouled my pride and refolution; I determined to turn over a new leaf. and recover the importance I had loft; I with great difficulty discontinued my attendance at the club, and my absence contributed in a great measure to its dissolution. The doctor was in a little time obliged to harangue to empty chairs, and the landlord became a bankrupt.

Thus was I delivered of the worst of plagues, an impertinent and talkative companion. I have now bid adieu to clubs, and am grown a family-man: I see myself beloved by my children, revered by my servants, and respected by my neighbours. I find my expences considerably lessened, my economy improved, my fortune and credit augmented; and in the fullness of my enjoyment, I cannot help drinking to the health of the loquacious doctor, who is likely to perform much more important cures with his tongue than ever

he will be able to effect by his prescription.

'If you think, Mr. CENTINEL, that these hints may be serviceable to others labouring under the distemper of which I am so happily cured, you may freely commanicate them to the public by the channel of your paper, which has been the source of much amusement to

SIR, your very humble servant,
MISOLALUS.



No. 56. Saturday, September 24th, 1757.

I found the following letter.

Mr. CENTINEL,

Mr. CENTINEL,

Brentford Batts.

TA 7.E don't take your paper in at our town; but i . VIV often read letters of yours in the LONDON EVENTUG and CHRONIC LE, which give me pleasure: and I wish I had interest enough to introduce the GITIZEN (in which your papers are inferred) into cour morning affembly ! but, alas! at the very mention of another paper, you hear nothing but Tax, Tax, . Tax, with as little change in the found as the hammer of a copper-mill: fo now I give it over, and take my chance of those occasional, but excellent letters. which are recruited into other papers, and which I am glad to find they are not afhamed to own of late, though formerly they would fain have palmed them on the town as their own pieces of genius and pleafantry, which Dean Swift to prettily fpeaks of on another · occasion :

> Kept company with men of wit, Who often father'd what he writ.

But to the point-You told us the other day, that the univerfality of the French Language would pave the way to their universal monarchy-I do believe it: vou might have added, that their Fashions would help it on no less. A few years ago, a gentleman in a white cloth coat would almost have been infulted, if not pelted, in the streets of London, and called a bongre Francois: now, at our affembly, and all other " neighbouring ones, you fcarce fee any other colour. Observe that white is worn by the French as the field of their arms, or indeed the very coat itself; the lilly being the whole burden of their honour, dignity and glory at home, and in every part of the world. Don't let us blame ministers for this: lay the saddle on the right horse; it is ourselves, our individual felves, that create this universal depravity: fond of being distinct (f.om the taylor) as it is generally called, and keeping clear of the journeyman, we wear cloaths which they as yet have not attempted, though 'I shall not be surprised to see all the common people on Sundays, soon dressed in white; and I hope sto

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expose them more to my resentment, and that of a whole populace) with white sword-knots.

As to the ladies, they have not a scented water, a ribbon nor a wash, which has not a French name to it; and I hope to see the mob of Old England take

down gently a certain fign in Coventry-street (which a milliner has lately hung up to invite customers to,

knowing the present inclinations of the gay and polite

world) which is the fleurs des Lis; and her hand-

bills have the fame impression.

This, I think, is carrying things on swimmingly, as it is called. I shall not be surprised to see a tavern soon with the sign of Versailles, the Louvre or Lux-embourg; since the cook, though not a French one, is taught to speak broken English, and every sauce he has is christened with a French name. But I saw this stronger the other day than I could have imagined, in a samily which a sew years ago were curtesying behind a compter for the small returns of tea and sugar

delivered out to the beggars of St. Giles's.

they quitted business, and are now a kind of starving gentry in some new street of Westminster, where, French like, they starve within doors, to have the outward and visible sign of dignity by a large house and gilt equipages. There are many such, Mr. CEN-

Calling on this family about noon the other day, I found by the equipage and postilion mounted at the door, that they were going out of town, so I only proposed wishing them a good journey and safe return, according to the English way: but on my coming up they insisted I should do as they did—which was to eat a flying dinner, as they casted it, as they had not time to prepare a better. Curiosity led me now to ask what it was, and whether I did not lay them under a necessity of getting something extraordinary; they said, no: that it was only intended for the ir own samily en passant; for they were to dine thirty miles off, and therefore they had only ordered some mintenant chops with poover sauce. This was as near the sound as I can write; though were you to hear it, it would

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found more ridiculous. In France they have coteletts a la maintenon and sauce des panores; the latter being

nothing but what poor people eat, namely, chalats

and vinegar. Adieu, and join with me in wishes for better times, for I think they can't well be worse.

Yours, &c.

SPECTATOR.

· P. S. We should perhaps here call it beggar or gypsy-sauce, as eating a cold dinner under a tree is commonly called gypsying.



No. 57. Monday, September 26th, 1757.

Quis circum pagos & circum compita pugnax, Magna coronari contemnat Olympia, cui spes, Cui sit conditio dulcis sine pulvere palmæ? Hon.

fee in the country towns of England the shifts firolling sets of players are put to, in order to imitate their betters in London. The bills stuck up against meeting house doors, or the turnpike (leading into the town) are by command of several people of sashion, and quality; though of the latter, perhaps, there is not one within twenty miles; and likewise variety of singing and dancing; though perhaps the whole is an horn-pipe or drunken peasant, or a Scots ballad between the acts.

The distressful tragedy of Romeo and Juliet is now exhibited in every barn, with a dirge and procession to the monument of the Capulets, after the manner of both theatres royal in London. As both theatres differ in their methods of raising your forrow; the one by sine church-music, the other by a melancholy train of mourners; one would think this barn was to exhibit both under one.

I beat lately at Andover, in my way to London from Salisbury, and was not forry at seeing there was a chance of a am for please As we the unro

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of a well-frent evening for once, though in the main I am forry the country towns fo univerfally abound with construction districts

pleafures.

At the end of the act the procession was to begin, we were delayed near half an hour, as I imagined by the necessary preparations; but the truth was, the unroyal theatre was over the stable, and a broad-wheel waggon was just arrived from the West, whose horses must be fed, and it was necessary to wait this circumstance over, lest the noise of their kicking while they were dresling and feeding should any wife disturb the folemnity of the dirge, and procession to the monument of the Capulets. At length the curtain drew up; the apothecary's mortar (not a little cracked with ill-placed strokes of the peftle) gave us to understand the corpse was coming: there was a folitary fiddle, who ftruck the open strings with his thumb, by way of thorough bass, and the parish-boys, with napkins over their shoulders as heralds coats (like FALSTAFF's description of his thieving foldiers) fung a kind of rhining itanza to a pfalm-tune, with common green rush candles in their hands by way of taper.

The procession, by the theatrical trick of the same boys passing and repassing over the stage, was not very short: the mortar still tolled, the fiddle swelled his diapuson, and the tapers still burnt, when all was at an end; for Romeo was apprehended by a warrant for having stole some linen, perhaps the better to act the part; and 'tis pity it had not been made up, as he wiped his tears during the whole performance with a checked

handkerchief.

But every body did not know this fatal secret—and still, in imitation of their betters, an apology was made that Romeo was very ill, and begged the part might be read to the audience; which it was by a man in a cinnamon coat and leather breeches, the mayor inulting on it that Romeo should be brought before him as he was. least by a scheme of undressing he might slide away from juffice.

The tragedy and procession fairly over (if one may use the expression for such foul performers) I went to my inn; and, while my supper was getting ready,

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amused myself with sitting down by many of them; when I sound in that small company of eleven men, there were the remains of three lawyers clerks, sour apprentices to very considerable merchants, two handicrasts, and the remaining two quondam students of one of our two samous universities. By this means I prove pretty plain, I think, my first hint, that it was a pleasfure, though a melancholy one. The ladies, who were three in number too, being the daughters of reputable people, who read novels instead of prayer-books, and plays when they ought to have studied the art of cookery.

However, so far I was pleased, as they all seemed happy (such is Providence!) which put me in mind of Mr. Pope, in his proving the equal distribution of Happiness to man.

See the blind beggar dance—the cripple sing! The fot an hero, lunatic a king:
The starving chymist, 'midst his golden views,
Supremely bless'd—the poet in his muse.

I take this opportunity to infert a letter I received last week, which relates an extravagance of imitation, in another cast than that complained of above.

Mr. CENTINEL,

Let R fince mother MIDNIGHT first set up her Acheron and hellish tricks, I have never been able to keep a broomstic or mop-handle to myself, for parlour or kitchen, nor — My journeyman is the very broomsticado at the little theatre in the Haymarket. One of my apprentices plays the wooden spoons, and the other the sultbox. I broke the latter yesterday in a passion, on account of his neglecting my business, and he threatens me with an action. He swears his saltbox was a true Cremona one, and fairly worth 50 l. "What!" says he, with the air of a first siddle, "you thought it was only good to hold salt in—the tretts were more perfect than any guitar, and I am ruined by the loss."

To crown all, my maid has nailed fome brass wire to the handle of the warming-pan; and coming home with

with a cold the other night, I wanted the assistance of that machine, when I found it was turned into a quitar or pandole, though she calls it by names as

opposite as a firster or a condole.

This is my unhapy situation! I have nothing but frum-strum and hum-hum; and if they strike up a dance, it must be Holbein's, and I never expect a better. There is such a buz in my kitchen, after my shop is shut, that a passer-by would think the silk mills

were there.

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Yours, &c.



No. 58. Tuesday, September 27th, 1757.

Learn the arts of Courts - this is the way, This only, to be safe in such a world as this.

ROWE.

R. Addison made himself very merry in one of the Spectators, with a defign which the late French king had at that time of establishing an Academy of Politicians; and feemed to look upon a feminary for breeding up statesmen in a regular way by precepts and instructions, as a ridiculous attempt. But I must beg leave to dissent from that excellent writer; and cannot help thinking that the bulinels of government may be much more easily learned by rules and rudiments, than any other art or science whatsoever. A man must have a natural genius to arrive at any perfection in Poetry, Oratory, Painting or Music, because there are things required to excel in those arts, which cannot be attained by all the industry and instruction in the world; fuch as a lively and fruitful imagination, a graceful elocution, a quick eye, a malterly hand, and a delicate ear: but the political art, which confifts chiefly in Forms, Precedents, and Knowledge of the World, is subject to every man's understanding, and requires nothing more than assiduity and information.

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fociety

fociety of Jesus is known to be rather a political than a religious institution, and hath furnished the Catholic courts of Europe, for an age or two palt, with their ablest ministers and statesmen. The court of France hath been particularly obliged to this great seminary of politicians for the figure which she hath made in the world. She hath been long famous for her skill and management of intrigues; and hath often retrieved by negotiation in the cabinet, what she bath lost in the field. On the other hand, we Britons (by I know not what fatality or negligence) have always been more remarkable for our own courage than our policy; and from being the terror of all Europe in the field, have often fuffered ourselves to become the dupes and bubbles of all Europe in the cabinet. Now, for my part, I cannot impute this to any thing fo much as the want of a regular institution in state-affairs; for the genius of our countrymen, in general, feems to be fo naturally inclined to politics, that it hath been observed, from a nation of Saints, as England was once called, we are become a nation of Statesmen. Our coffee-houses and taverns are full of them. Nay, we often find them cramped up behind counters, or immured in stalls, garrets and night-cellars: but our misfortune is, that this national genius, for want of due cultivation and improvement, is apt to grow wild, and shoot up into schemes and projects, which expose us to the insults and contempt of the world about us. I would therefore propose it to the wisdom of my superiors, whether it would not be highly for the honour and interest of the nation to put ourselves upon an equality with Popish countries, by erecting a Protestant Academy, for the instruction of young gentlemen in the art and mystery of Government. If this proposal meets with any approbation or encouragement, I doubt not that variety of plans will be laid before the public for that purpole; but, as it may be expected that I should offer something of this nature, I would humbly propose the following model, which occurred to me on my first thoughts on this subject; declaring, that I shall chearfully yield to any thing better, which may be hereafter proposed. I would

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I would have a large edifice erected, at the expence of the public (unless any private person hath a mind to immortalize himself by so noble a benefaction) consisting of several schools, like those in both our universities; in which the several branches of political knowledge, necessary to the formation of a statesman, shall be particularly explained to a certain number of students, by able professors, who shall be appointed by the government with handsome salaries for that purpose.

In the first, or lowest of these schools, I would have the students taught to read, write and cast up accompts; for really a man makes but a pitiful figure in one of the chief posts of an administration, who is not master of

these ordinary accomplishments.

The next should be the school of Modern Languages, especially French, which is almost absolutely necessary for conversing with foreign ministers, either at home or abroad; though it must be confessed, that there are exceptions to this general rule; and that we have had instances of some men who have made a shining sigure, even at the French court itself, without the least know-

ledge of their language or manners.

The third should be a Dancing-school; which may seem, perhaps, to some persons, a very unnecessary apartment in a political academy; but I must desire these gentlemen to consider that address and a graceful appearance have some influence in all courts, and often contribute to the carrying of great points. It is at least, very improper that a person invested with a public character, which represents his sovereign, should be so far destitute of all breeding, as not to know how to come into a room with tolerable grace, or to behave himself when he is there. In this school might likewise be taught the ceremonies and punctilios of honour, which ought to be observed in conversation with ladies, or other persons of high rank.

I would likewise have a Geographical School; in which our young students in politics should be instructed in the knowledge of the globe and maps. They shou'd especially be taught to distinguish between the four great quarters of the world; particularly America; which being the last discovered part, some ministers have fallen

into great mistakes about it, and discovered to the whole world that they took Portobello and La Vera Cruz to be the same place, though they lie at several hundred leagues distance from each other. A geographical professor would therefore be very necessary in this seminary, to prevent such egregious blunders for the future. He might also be obliged to give his assistance to our adult statesmen in any of their enterprizes or ex-

peditions, whether at home or abroad.

The fifth should be the Ambassador's School: where I would have monfieur Wiquefort's book upon the functions of that high office, carefully explained to the fludents; and no person should ever be sent abroad with a public character, who is not a tolerable proficient in the interests, manners and characters, of the chief persons of that court, at which he is to reside. The professor of this school should take great pains to instruct his disciples not to be imposed upon and led by the nose (as some ambassadors have been) by the tricks, subtleties and finesse of artful ministers; especially by delays and procrastinations, which are always dangerous in political negotiations, when the party on whom they are practifed, is kept at a continual, valt expence, with his hands bound down, and infulted by his enemy, without any power of defending himself, or making reprisals; and yet we have known some ambaffadors, whose whole negotiations have confifted of nothing but delays: which they feemed to look upon as deep reaches in politics, for no other reason that I can guess, but because the Roman dictator once carried his point by them, in a particular cafe of great extremity.

Unus homo nobis cunctando restituit Rem.

But I believe it will be found upon examination, that delays have done more mischief to some countries than they ever did good to Rome; and a certain gentleman, who affects to imitate FABIUS in this particular, must not expect to be honoured with the title of MAXIMUS upon that account.

In another school I would have the whole modern art of Treaty making explained by a professor, well ac-

quainted with this part of political knowledge.

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He must be a man of subtle, prevaricating genius, a perfect master of ambiguities, double meaning, and equivocal expressions; which are of great use, when it is not proper to let the fense of the contracting parties appear in public. He must likewise be well versed in fecret and separate articles, saving clauses, and counterstipulations; which make the greatest part of modern treaties, and give either party an opportunity of break. ing through them when occasion requires, without any apparent violation of public faith, by distinguishing between the letter and the spirit of a treaty. I would only recommend one rule to the professor and students in this school; and that is, not to project any treaties, conventions or alliances, between two nations who have no mutual interest concerned; for it is ridiculous to suppose that any words, however formal or solemn, will bind a prince or state against their real interest. hope, therefore, that this rule will be of some service to the world in preventing wild, blundering treaties, and unnatural alliances, which are the fource of fo many national misfortunes and calamities.

In the highest school of all should be taught the business of the Finances and other affairs, which relate to the office of a prime minister; such as the method of keeping public accounts, and making an advantage of national debts; the mystery of stock-jobbing, taxes, ways and meane, deficiencies and arrears; the use of spies, setters and informers; the art of managing public assemblies; breaking promises without salshood; and bribing, or being bribed, without corruption; as also the great secret of deceiving princes, and making them answerable for the mismanagement, blunders and iniquities of their servants.

I have the vanity to believe, that a Political Seminary, formed upon this p'an, would prove of excellent service to my country; especially if it is established at this time, when we have so many gentlemen in power who have distinguished themselves both at home and abroad, by their capacities for public business; and, as his late most Christian majesty proposed to put his academy under the protection of the marquis de Torcy, minister and secretary of state, I doubt not that one of our most eminent

eminent statesmen would undertake the same office, and initiate our young politicians in those great arts by which they have so remarkably signalized themselves.

I shall only add, that if it should be found difficult to raise money for this purpose, it might not be improper to confiscate the estate of some great offender; and thus turn the treasure, which hath been plundered from the public, to the service and emolument of the public.



No. 59. Wednesday, September 28th, 1757.

Scilicet in vulgus manent exempla regentum.

CLAUDIAN.

THERE is nothing more requires the pen of animadversion than the luxury of Citizens wives and daughters, on that day which is commonly called a day of rest; but is, in general, a day of the greatest labour and satigue, to half the world of London. If one calculates the heavy load of cloaths they wear that day, to what they do in common; the very long journies they take, and late hours they always keep after, their arrival, because they are arrived, and that it is a pity to part so soon!

I happened to be at a certain tavern by Hamptoncourt, last Sunday, when two post-chariots, of two postillions each (and of course four horses) stopt. The burthen of both were ladies—for their husbands were still in London, employed, perhaps, as Mr. POPE says

of fir BALAAM,

His compting-house employ'd the Sunday morn.

I wish I could say of them too, as that ingenious author says in the next lines of him, namely,

Seldom at church—'twas fuch a bufy life!
But duly fent his family and wife.—

Well, as foon as the step was let down, and they had shook their cloaths a little, the landlord, with a title

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of lady ship at every other word, alked what they chose for dinner-for that, on Sundays great tribes of hectoring cits came from London; and that an hour hence, perhaps, he might not be able to give them their refusal of his larder. On this they said, ' pray tell us what you have, man!"-" Won't your ladyships fee " my larder?" - Oh!' fays one, 'I hate the fight of skinned rabbits: another cries, 'I faint at the very . ' idea of undrest meat :' and a third concurred with the remaining fourth, that 'larders were nothing better than fmall fishmonger's, poulterer's, or butcher's hops-and they hated /hop-keepers in general.

So far so good. My landlord, who has the eye of an hawk, looked at me and fmiled, as much as to fay, "I know my cue, and thefe are the very quality I " pay my rent by: for real quality and gentry, who " dine well at home, feldom want any thing delicate:

" mutton is their harvest."

The time now arrives when one difliked meat, another fish, and the remaining two, fowls or rabbits; fo that at last the dinner was a most expensive banquet of game and pastry, with a desert in character; and the whole country was ranfacked, as they thought, for pheasant, quail, wheat ears, partridge, land-rail, and what not; though, among friends, the quails (which they faid they must have, or they would leave the house) were only thrushes and black-birds with their heads off; and the pheasant nothing but a fowl of that fize, drest pheasant-fashion, of which they all eat hearty, drank perry, by the way of champaign; elder wine for burgundy; currant wine out of square bottles, for cape (it having first been poured over tarr;) and when the bill came they, so far from taking off a farthing, even added, by not taking the odd filver.

As I was planted in the very next room I often heard the toasts they drank; and my landlord often stept in and laughed with me, faying, " if they were pretty I " should think they were girls of the town;" but they are all, as OTHELLO fays, in the vale of years .-

" But," fays he, "I will lay any wager, if it was worth " while to trace them all home, they are all the very

" thing they despise."

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It was on this hint that I myself (tolerably speculative) ordered my horse, and without a servant followed them to town. On the road they often stopped to ask for the most costly wines in vain; at London I concealed myself so as to trace them all to one street, where I found that she who disliked meat was a butcher's wife; she who railed at fish was a fishmonger's sister; and the remaining two, who forbid fowls and rabbits, were old maiden daughters of a poulterer.—Thus ends the history.

I would now gladly know if we are not in the high road to ruin and destruction: I would fain ask any reafonable man if it will take up much time or pains to subdue a country like this. The environs of this great metropolis are crouded with such, though perhaps not quite so expensive. But I should tell my reader, that, on enquiry at an alchouse in the same street, I sound that two of these people's families had been bankrupts within a few years: and I ought to tell my reader also,

that one of their chief toalts was,

Careless masters and cunning servants.

By which, I suppose, they meant they loved families who did not dive into their housekeeping-expences; and where the servants were to be bribed to secrecy. I am forry to relate this; but am determined to publish it for the good of all cits in particular, and the kingdom in general.



No. 60. Thursday, September 29th, 1757.

Qualis ubi audito venantum murmure tigris
Horruit in maculas. _____ STATIUS.

DID not imagine that any of my speculations, or correspondents favours, especially those wrote in a sprightly, good-humoured strain, could have the ill consequence which, I find by the following letter, my 56th paper has produced.

Mr. CENTI-

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Mr. CENTINEL, Pall-mall, Sept. 29. T Happened to dine at this very tavern, on or about the 24th instant, September, in the year of our Lord 1757, when the ADVERTISER of that day (which ever it was) lay before me. I remember I then and there faw a strange kind of advertisement, in relation to a certain milliner in Coventry-freet : who I found had taken no small umbrage at your kind, very kind admonition, concerning her French fign of the flower de luce, and her hand-bills, with a picture of the same.

As you are the only daily friend, who act as Cenfor, Corrigidor and Reformer-general, of the manners of the age, I think you did right. Mr. FITZ-ADAM performed your office once! But he has let The World alone for some time past; from a principle, perhaps. too common in the World-" What has the World

" done for me?"

'This is odd reasoning, Mr. CENTINEL, and while you continue your daily labours to amuse and reform. as you certainly wish to do, a very retrograde age, I ' shall join my mite of assistance always, as I do now : and never drink a dish of coffee, where they do not oblige me with a fight of your paper. But to the o point. bet make the approintment

'The fair lady (authoress no doubt of the advertisement in question) seems to grow very red of a sudden. ' in relation to your animadversion on her sign. I have ' passed it often, and am a little surprized, that as her plea is, that the flower de luce is the English arms, " she should not have tacked a lion to it, or an harp; all which I distinguish very plain, from the dining room window of the King's Arms aforefaid, in Pall-mall.

' A lion trampling on a flower de luce would have been in character. A lion eating a flower de luce, or a hundred at one mouthful, would have been more in ' character. And (faving your presence, fair readers) ' his laying his tail on a flower de luce would have been ' still more a propos, than any thing I can at present think of.

But there are (if she must have a flower at her door, by way of sign) roses in the arms of England, and even a thistle bears no unsightly look, when in its bloom, and this also may be found in the arms of Great Britain. She may plead anon, that she never saw the English arms. If so, as I am an old married man (and therefore her dear reputation can't suffer) I invite her, and all her English apprentices (which she rests so much upon) to dine with me here; and my wise shall be one of the company, to prevent further resections.

Then, from this window shall she see, unless she is blind, the arms of this our glorious and flourishing kingdom, with a certain proof intermixed, that once the lillies of France were pale: and, though the tavern is at the court end of the town, I do assure her, the dinner shall be (in spite of her nice stomach) roast beef, Dorking sowls, and Hampshire gammon, a Michaelmas goose from Salop—remove. Thames salmon—and so on, in the plain English way. And her liquors (whether they agree or no with her palate) shall be Dorsetshire beer, Devonshire cyder, Gloucestershire perry, and a double jug of London porter.

1 lodge in Thatched-house court, St. James's street,

I lodge in Thatched-house court, St. James's street,
and am known there by the name, style and title, of
The Strange Gentleman; so if she likes my treat, let
het make the appointment in English, and I'll provide

accordingly.

Yours, &c.

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• P. S. Pray let all the English misses come; I shall provide for a proper number: but let them not call any thing they see there a kick-shaw, because that is the corruption of the two French words quelques choses, which they never knew before, being all natives of Great Britain, as she says, though living at the sign of the Flower de Luce.

CHOMEMENTANIS

No. 61. Friday, September 30th, 1757.

Audi alteram partem.

AM rejoiced that the frequency of my publications has increased the number of my correspondents, from one of whom I received the following letter.

Dear CENT. IN bus a W

YOU feem of late to be entirely on the plan of The Spectator, Tatler and Guardian, which I like much; you tell us things which come home to prefent practice, and I fet my conduct for the day very much by your paper of the day. Had I known your intent to explain the inconveniencies which have and will follow those who are followers of your Methodists, I believe I could have matched you with my husband, as you have found out an instance of a wife who has the wrong turn, of which I hope there are but few: but to the point I want to lay before you.

We are jointly concerned in the business of Robemaking, and indeed got a very tolerable subsistence in that branch, fufficient, as the country people fay, to keep ourselves and a pig. We had often spare money to enjoy ourselves on a Sunday at Holloway, and frequently indulged ourselves with Dorsetshire at JENNY's whim: but alas! those days are over. Since my filly husband, poor dear man! has taken it into his head to follow morning prayers at Moorfields and Tottenham road, our business drops apace. Seven bishops have left us, hearing of his folly, and we daily expect the remaining three to do the fame. When customers come, if I am not in the way (which I am as often as as I can) journeymen give furly answers-drive people away, and then afterwards secure them to themselves. Two of these have set up against us; and

as our fign is the Two Bishops at Prayers, they dare onot, in the very same neighbourhood, have quite the fame, and so have two bishops painted taking snuff,

and shaking hands, like the sign of a falutation tavern. But this is not all; the bad debts we contract by

the clergy of the fect called Methodists are endless; and in spite of all their pretended humility when

they pray and preach, and the true, very true, apostolical garb they wear on those occasions, I assure you,

when they visit, no filk is too good for their cassocs, fcarfs and fashes; as we too fatally have experienced.

Vide our debt books.

while it mest with both more ' The other day when my husband came home, I told him, that Mr. W____ p and Mr. W____ v had been there, and bespoke new robes, which I refused them, shewing them by the books, that there was an unpaid lift of theirs in the books as long as their fcarfs. Why, you infernal b-ch," faid my dear husband to me, "I shall never be saved by your cursed tongue: " he that gives to the church lends to the Lord, and " you have refused those men of God common necessa-" ries';-I wish they have not, according to the Scrip-" ture, left their dust at our door-if so, we shall be ruined foul and body." Observe only, Mr. CENTI-NEL, that thefe very pious men can fwear and be in a passion; for I assure you, I have given you his very ' identical words, as they dropped from his dear

"I now very meekly (and fure that is the true Ch. iftianity) answered, why, my dear, whether we are ruined as to our souls or no, I can't tell; you are the best judge of those things: but as to our bodies, I am very fure we are ruined. I have not had money to go to market with for this week past, and am sure my cloaths are worse than than those of LAZARUS in the tapestry there, for ours being a very old-fashioned

house, there is a great deal of that furniture in it. "What! profane the Scriptures, you b-ch, by " mentioning names out of Holy Writ in common talk " -I'll fell off all my goods, fays he, and put you to " board at your uncle's, the face-painter's, where you " will live and perish together, a fellow that supports

" himself

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" himself by breaking the second commandment every " day, which expressly says, that no likeness is to be

" made of any thing. God forgive you and him as I " do."

' My dear, fays I, he supports his family; and that is a Christian's part and duty .- " Prithee, fays he,

" don't talk to me: the devil will have him and you, " and I hope he will. Where, though you will not

" fulfil the whole of weeping and wailing, I'm fure you'll perform one part of the fentence, which is,

" gnashing your teeth." I have never seen him since. This it is to be blest or curst with an over religious

husband. Your daily Reader,

-both Jane Prudence.



No. 62. Saturday, October 1st, 1757.

Quam multi Libyco volountur marmore fluctus.

VIRG.

MINCE Sieges, Encampments and Secret Expeditions. are become the fashionable topics, a few remarks on the subject of Castrametation, I hope, will not

be disagreeable to the reader.

an interpretation accommodate the

As I was walking not long fince, within a few miles of London, accompanied by a particular friend, we observed a number of tents pitched upon a spacious green, which were so numerous that they seemed to form a camp of themselves. Curiosity led us to enquire the names and uses of each in particular: but as I cannot recollect all the several divisions, nor the account we received of them, I shall content myself with relating the information we obtained concerning those which appeared most remarkable.

They were not yet ranged in proper order, but stood straggling afunder in seeming consustion. The first and largest covered a great extent of ground; the top of it

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was ornamented with painting, representing flaming fwords, bunches of grapes, and wreaths of laurel; and the infide was lined with a curious cotton, which was fine enough to make a morning trollopeé for a dutches: this, we were told, was THE DINING-ROOM. Next to this stood a fecond, little less than the former, which was likewife embellished at the top, and was called THE BED-CHAMBER: the bed had all the appearance of elegance and luxury; the furniture was made of a beautiful printed cotton, and every figure stamped upon the curtains displayed an air of gaiety and wantonness. It feemed rather calculated to receive the delicate limbs of a languid Sultana, than the vigorous body of an active warrior; and looked more like the foft downy pavilion of GUPID, than the hard-tented bed of MARS. Somewhat beyond this stood a third, for the accommodation of servants and attendants. Near this was a fourth with a latticed top, which, as we were informed, was THE KITCHEN. At a small distance from this there was a fifth, which was called THE LARDER. A little further on was placed a fixth, which, as we understood, was for the reception of POTS AND KETTLES, &c. And at a small remove from thence stood a Bell-tent, which was to be a repository for the Arms : with many others. which were fo fmall and inconfiderable that they have escaped my memory.

Upon viewing this magnificent apparatus, we were led to enquire for whom it was defigned; and being told that it was destined for the service of a young gentleman of fashion, we were tempted to ask what rank he held in the army, and were further informed; that he bore no higher commission than that of Lieutenant Captain. Upon this information, my friend, who is a man of great judgment and reslection, pulled me by the sleeve, and pointing to the spreading tents, asked me—if I did not think the scene before us looked like the soppery of war. I was pleased with the justice of this apposite sarcasm, and it led me to consider the strange impropriety of introducing the soft conveniencies of Ease, and all the delicate improvements of Luxury in

a camp.

The

The less distinction there is between the foldiers and the subaltern officers, with the more readiness and alas crity will the former submit to the fatigues and dangers of war. When they fee their fuperiors share some part of the hardships to which they are exposed, they will not think their own lot fo deplorable. But when they find that the apartments of their Captain are extended to the circumference of a village, and that he can indulge with his doxy in a spacious down bed, while they are cooped under a feanty canvals, which covers but a few feet of earth, and doomed to crowd within those narrow limits, seven in a heap, with only a bed of straw to rest upon: surely this vast inequality must render them dispirited and discontented. There ought certainly to be a reasonable difference in their situation in camps as well as in towns; but when it rifes to fo great a disproportion, it becomes both unjust and impolitic.

The tent of the General indeed ought to be magnificent, but no marks of foftness and luxury should appear even there. The Romans, who will ever remain the unrivalled models of military and patriot virtue. banished all appearances of effeminate case from their camps. They preserved the nicest decorum and most fevere discipline, with the strictest attention to the duties of religion, without which it is impious to hope for fuccels in battle. The pratorium, or general's tent. confifted of few divisions, but the most remarkable part of it was the augurale, which was fet apart for offices of devotion: not far from the pratorium was a fpot of ground called the principia, where they placed their altars and the statues of their gods. Thus they did not neglect the duties of piety even in the camp; and there is no doubt but that their folemn regard for religious obligations, contributed greatly to inspire them with that faithful constancy and persevering valor, which

made them masters of the world.

Houde

But in our camp, who ever heard that the least portion of earth was dedicated to the service of religion. I do not like to propose Pagans for the imitation of Christians: but if they were more fervent in facred acts of devotion, than we who boast the light of revelation, then it is virtue to commend their superior zeal,

and condemn our inexcusable impiety.

Military fkill and valor are not more effential requifites in a general than piety and temperance; nay, piety and temperance are the fosterfathers of conduct and courage. If there is truth in history, the ancients excelled in both : as to their piety, they were fcrupulous in the practice of it, even to a superstitious observance; nor were they less

conspicuous for their temperance.

CATO the younger leading his army over the burning defarts of Libia, they endured the greatest extremities of thirst; at length, coming to a little rivulet, a foldier offering him some water, he threw it on the ground, and made every one in the army drink before he gratified his own thirst .- SCIPIO triumphed over his desires, and returned a beauteous captive, undefiled, to her lover. -Massinissa, king of Numidia, was content with the bread which he allowed his foldiers. - And of later days, CHARLES the XIIth of Sweden made himself remarkable for sharing the hardships of the field in contmon with his men. was him to alabour hellowing as

It is to be hoped therefore, that our campaigners will endeavour to imitate these heroes. And if a miltaken tenderness of education has so mollified their constitutions, that they cannot be so hardy as their forefathers, they may at least be as temperate: and temperance, which gives peace to the mind, will not fail to add strength and vigor to the body.

Let not therefore, our camps be made the scenes of riot and revelling in the day-time, nor of debauchery and incontinence at night; left they should appear more

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like itinerant brothels than flying camps,

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AND CONCERNO TO THE

No. 63. • Monday, October 3d, 1757.

Natio Come dia est.

Tuv.

HE letter inserted in my 57th paper, complaining of the disturbance in a samily by the servants being all mock-musicians, has produced the following letter.

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Mr. CENTINEL,

BEING acquainted with the person who represents himself under the most melancholy dilemma, by means of his mock-musical family, I paid him a visit the other day, when I assure you (before I left him) he declared and concluded, my situation to be the most unfortunate of the two.

facturer; I must be excused saying in what, or in what part of the town, as I don't chuse to be known while I make so ridiculous a figure; for I hate being laughed at, and that I know must be my fate if I am known.

My house are all mad, and 'tis but very lately that I got to the bottom of my misery, by finding out how my fellows all came, as the Scripture says, to be of one mind in an house. But I find that whenever any man did not suit them, they made his life uneasy, and so I often lest the finding out a fresh one to themselves; when to be sure, they always chose one of their own kidney, for want of which I sometimes waited months without a principal hand in my manufactures: thanks to their impudence!

I both read and faw a farce called The Apprentice, and indeed it hit my fituation so pat that I really thought the author, whoever he was, meant it at me; nay, I am not convinced he did not yet! but I assure

Where's ATRINSON (says I, the other day) who is a clever fellow, and my foreman? bid him come to me. "Sir," says the maid, "I am sure he can't, for he plays OTHELLO to night, and his face is

" already blacked."

" home."

' Well, fays I, patience! patience! - But fend MOLLY to me to make some tea. I am quite feverish .-" MOLLY, fir, does DESDEMONA, as BETTY is not well, and her head is so well drest by my mistress's own hands, that she would be assamed to come down " now. Besides, the warehouse, I mean the theatre, is quite full of company, and the first music is over!" -Pretty music this! to my ears at least: my daugh-· ters are all taught already to wear breeches, as my fons are too big for paps, and are already arrived at the honour of characters, though dumb ones; for they are senators in Othello, flaves in Oroonoko, thieves in • The Beggars Opera, and Dominican or other friars in · Juliet's procession. This is kindly contrived by my wife, who fays in time they will fpeak tragedy well, they being under a good tutorer (as she calls him) and that they ought to be manured to an audience f afore they begin to speak, lest it should damp their · first essays on the stage; for that BARRY or GARRICK are fools compared to her fon BOBBY. As

I have luckily faved money, and have no chance

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but quitting bufiness, and retiring into the country at once; I would fain purfue bufiness longer for my children's fake, but fear they will be ruined; a small fortune, with a country education far from this metropolis, is better than a larger one when the morals are corrupted. These are my notions, and I purpose fending for carpenters to-morrow to deltroy all their scenery and machinery, the dogs having had the impudence even to establish a Harlequin entertainment in the very warehouse where my father and grandfather got so many thousands. Adieu! As soon as I have fent my wife and children away, I purpole fending for Mr. Justice F-c, who, when he catches them in the fact, I hope will persuade these kings and princes that they are but men, and not only fo, but poor, beggarly journeymen, and fend them to Bridewell, where, if they want truncheons, they may use the handle of their hammers, and then I hope the keeper will give them that dreffing they ought to have given to their hemp. However, whenever I fettle in the country I will fend for your paper.

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No. 64. Tuesday, October 4th, 1757.

Criminibus debent hortos. Juv.

ON QUEVEDO, the witty and ingenious, in distributing his punishments fairly and equally to mankind in the shades below, tells us, that Poets were condemned to hear each other's works; imagining that to be a much greater and severer sentence than any that could be hit on through the whole calendar of fufferings. I think politicians might be ferved the same way. I mean the politicians of this country, 'till very lately one arose like the just man (could he have been also found) to save Sodom and Gomotrah from who I mean. The only man that would ever keep a fecret himself, or employ those who will do it for him, when he cannot with them. Can you guess now?

Of peasants, their vile trash;

or which is still better, agreeable to the Psalmist, heaping up riches, without being able to tell who shall

gather them.

Sure no two Poets, according to Don QUEVEDO, could be half so tiresome to each other, as two such blundering, yet designing Politicians. I can imagine their looks, their gesture of uneasiness and vexation, as well as if I saw them. Whence should Mr. P—T, and Mr. L—GE, be condemned in that manner, they would sit like the Angel and ADAM in MILTON, and say with the latter,

With thee conversing I forget all time, All seasons, and their changes.—All please alike.

Though I don't usually walk in the path of Politics, which I may be said to do at present, there are many things daily occur which might be smothered, if the press and papers of this kind, were not open to receive them; and notwithstanding my plan is, that common subjects of life only are to be treated on after the manner of The Spectator, yet I will not refuse admittance, sometimes, to what may be so well intended as the following letter.

SIR,

I FEAR this letter, not being consistent with the design of your paper, will be thrown on the left hand, as some folks do their promise in the atmosphere

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dog king decl atmosphere of St. James's, and others of their conficience in the circuit of the Two Temples. For citizens are always honest! always conscientious!

always pious! particularly the latter, if one might judge by the number of steeples, as a man passes up

and down the Thames, compared to the small shows of them in and about Westminster. So much for that!

It is reported of king CHARLES the IId, that when any victualling contracts were agreed on, he always ordered samples of the bread, beef or pork, to

be laid before him; and retiring to his closet, by

bimself or with a friend, he always used to have his

favourite dogs fent for; and by throwing the provision among them, by that simple circumstance, was ever

' able to find out which was best, sweetest and whole-

fomest, for his good subjects.

'This prince, who knew by various distresses what it was to be a man, often said, that one hour in a day

was sufficient to be a king, and I am truly of his mind: for kings, as kings, are often deceived, but as men

they stand the same chance as others.

Palace - Yard,

Your constant reader,

Westmintter

F. T.

I have no proof that victualling contracts are ill performed, but by hearfay; and that is not to be depended on. Common Fame is a liar, and I hope common failors are the fame when they grumble, as they often do, on account of ill-provided stores.

The only way to prevent an Englishman from Jan-guishing after his country, is to feed him so well with the produce of his country as to make him believe him-felf to be at home. And I can easily, very easily, imagine a piece of Sussex or Hampshire beef, to give a double flow of spirits and courage, when eat before the walls of a French sortification in America; when the garrison, perhaps, are at best languishing over pulse, roots and animal food, in a state of putrefaction. When I can prove any fraud in victualling, which my honest dogs shall be my guides in, as they were guides to the king, mentioned by my correspondent, I will as kindly declare it as any vice I know of.

ВЬ

Wednesday,



No. 65. Wednesday, October 5th, 1757.

-Non corpora tantum, Verum animos etiam valeant mutare liquores.

OVID.

T is a truth univerfally admitted by a learned faculty to which I belong, that one animal may live of the blood of another, so that those which want or have corrupt and morbid blood may be supplied from others with a fufficient quantity of fuch as is good and laudable. From a conviction of this we may probably imagine that the learned doctor Lower conceived his idea of transfusion, of which he is generally esteemed the inventor, and which he has given us an accurate description of in his excellent book de Carde. This method, like others, has, we know of late years, met with considerable improvements: in the philosophical transactions we have accounts of the success of various transfusions practised at London, Paris, Italy, &c. where we read not only of life prolonged, and health restored, but also of astonishing changes made in the nature and dispositions of several animals by this ingenious practice; the blood of a young dog was transfused into an old one almost blind with age, and scarce able to fir, who immediately after the operation frisked about with all the appearance of health, youth and vigour. The blood of an English mastiff being poured into a Bologna lap-dog, and the lap-dog's transfused into the mastiff, they became on a sudden creatures intirely different from what they had been, and exchanged natures with their blood. An old lion in the fame manner, having been so far tamed by age as to admit of the transfufion, his veins were filled with lamb's blood, and he became as gentle in a few weeks as the harmless animal infelf.

From these and many other fimilar facts, I could not but be of opinion that this transfulion might be practifed No alfo of cha no anc per

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also on the human species: if the nature and qualities of the brute creation could receive fo extraordinary a change from a mutatio sanguinis, or difference of blood, no good reason can possibly be assigned why the tempers and, dispositions of men may not admit of an equal alteration from new juices poured into the body at pro-

per times and feafons. Whatever the world may think, I am thoroughly satisfied that every disease and every habit, both of mind and body, is feated in the blood; not only every disorder incident to the human frame, but every vice and folly that can corrupt the human heart is derived from this fource: if a method could therefore be found to keep this fountain pure and unpolluted, or any means discovered to correct and lessen this pollution when contracted, they would furely deserve the thanks and the admiration of all. Such a method then I have had the good fortune to find out, and by adopting doctor LOWER's transulion, have, as I shall prove to a demonstration, proceeded much farther than all the moralists of former ages in the reformation of mankind.

But as there is no philosophy like that which is founded on fact, I shall here present my reader with a brief abstract of a few of my experiments in the transfufion of blood, which, to fay the truth, more than

answered my most fanguine expectations.

The first experiments I made were in my own family; who, for their own advantage, voluntarily submitted to the operation. I have two maiden fifters: SOBRINA, the eldest of them, from an hereditary torpor in the blood, together, with some acid juices that had by some means or other infinuated themselves into the capillary vessels of the brain, had from her infancy been remarkable for a four and gloomy disposition, which increased with her years, and had by degrees fixed on her the character of a prude. FLIRTILLA, the younger, was on the other hand of a nature most essentially different, her blood abounding in volatile spirits and fiery particles, flowed with the utmost rapidity, which, joined to a most inchanting form, had inclined her to a gaiety sometimes not altogether consistent with prudence, and which, added to a family-pride, had infensibly formed her into a finished coquette. Bb 2 There

There could not be a fairer opportunity of doing ho nour to the memory of doctor Lower than that which here offered itself to me. I immediately therefore tied up the carotid artery of my two patients, prepared my quills, &c. and purfued my operation till half the mass of blood was changed in each fubject. The effect was altonishing, for in a few hours after the very first bleeding, I perceived a manifest alteration in them both. S)BRINA's features foftened into an unufual findle, while FLIRTILLA's composed themselves into a solemnity which I had never before observed in her: SOBRINA in the space only of one day talked for two minutes, and FLIRTILLA held her tongue for four. By repeating my new method of phlebotomy for about a fortnight, they became both, from contemptible and ridiculous, the most amiable creatures in the universe; and after having despaired, from the absurdity of their behaviour, of their ever getting husbands, I had the pleasure to fee them both happily married in less than a twelvemonth.

The next experiment which I made was on an old man in my neighbourhood, and his fon; the former complaining to me of his boy's extravagance, the latter of his father's avarice; I promifed to cure them both, and having accordingly brought them together, which was no easy matter, I proceeded to my transfusion; the miler's drops of blood came from him like so many guineas with the utmost reluctance, whilst the prodigal bled fo freely that I began to think his life in danger. I contrived however at last to make the necesfary exchange of faguinary property, which was of fingular service to both parties, and attended with the consequences which I wished for; the covetous man in fhort grew generous, and the spendthrift prudent; the father made his fon happy by bestowing on him those riches which he could very well spare, and the son gave his father pleasure by the frugal occonomy which he obferved in the distribution of them.

But my third experiment (the third is always critical) was indeed a chef-d'œuvre. The 'fquire and parson of the parish where I live, though next door neighbours, had during the space of twenty years been utter strangers, and irreconcileable enemies, the one being what is generally

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talled a staunth whig, and the other a rank tory. I knew their blood to be greatly inflamed by party-heats, and in a constant state of sermentation: after taking away therefore a large quantity from each separately. I brought them, not without difficulty, to a meeting, and having emptied their vessels into each other secundum artem, turned them into the town-hall together at the last grand election, where, to the great suprise of the whole county, they embraced in a very cordial manner, shook hands, agreed to serve their king and country without regard to prejudice or party, and are now, from bitter foes and angry disputants, become as moderate men and as hearty friends as any in the three kingdoms.

Experiment fourth, June 24th, 1756, I took three quarts of blood from a lean courtier, and inserted them into the veins of a rich citizen, who the very Sunday after came to court, and made his bow with the air and address of a man of quality, whilst the same quantity being by agreement returned by the citizen to his friend at St. James's: so surprising was the effect, that his lordship was observed the very next day to enter into conversation with his steward, and actually, to the great association of his family, paid a tradesman's bill

in less than a formight afterwards.

EUGENIO had two fons, for whom he bought commissions; one of them turned out a genius whom everybody hated, and a coward whom every body despited the other was a dull plodding fellow whom no body liked, and so rashly brave that nobody would keep him company; they submitted to the transsusion, which mixed their juices so successfully, that the wit in a short time grew amiable, and the coward valiant; the plodder became bright, and the bravo calm; they both now serve his Majesty as colonels of foot, and are looked on as two of the best officers in the army.

The improvements which I afterwards made, in this noble art of transfusion, and the advantages resulting from it, would fill a volume; there is indeed scarce a vice or folly in the constitution of man which I have not thus softened and corrected by the contact with its opposite. If I had room in my paper, and nothing else to fill it with, I could tell how out of a solemn disagree-

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able Spaniard, and a noify impertinent Frenchman, I made two very rational beings; or divert my reader with the method I took with a free-thinker and a methodist, whom I bled into two very good christians; together with many other accounts equally true and entertaining; but my time and paper are too precious. I shall therefore conclude with earnestly recommending this my new art to the favour of the public.

ACHOLOGICA FARCICA COROR

No. 66. Thursday, October 6th, 1757.

Notitiam primosque gradus vicinia fecit Tempore crevit amor. Ov

OVID.

by examples. Perhaps the following story, told in the artless simplicity of truth, may be as effectual a vindication of the virtue of the age, as more refined reasonings of mere speculation. I can assure my readers no false colorings are attempted: every circumstance is strictly true; some, indeed, have been omitted, that were not less affecting, but might have pointed too particularly. If the beauty of virtue can tempt imitation, I shall think the trouble I have taken in preparing this for the public well rewarded.

A gentleman, in the West of England, dying suddenly, some years ago, lest an only son, whom we shall call HORATIO, about ten years old; the care of whom, and of his large estate was, by the providence of the law, committed to the proper hands, the father having made no will. There had been a long and real friendship between the deceased and EUBULUS, a clergyman of distinction in his neighbourhood, which now descended to the son, and was exerted in the most anxious attention to his education; a care, though not immediately his, yet most willingly submitted to his inspection, in consideration of his abilities, worth, and regard for the father.

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father. As foon as the necessary confinement of infancy was relaxed, HORATIO, in compliance with the kind invitation of EUBULUS, was permitted, by his guardians, to fpend the most part of every Summer at his house; where health, the first bleffing of life, was established by temperance and exercise, and virtue recommended by example. The paternal tenderness of this good man made fuch an impression on the grateful heart of HORATIO, that he returned it with the fond respect of filial love, looking on him as a father, the name by which he always called him. EUBULUS had an only daughter, a child when HORATIO first went to his house. who grew up in his love, as a fifter; for robbed of the connections of nature, when he had scarce begun to feel them, he gladly placed his tenderness on the family of his benefactor. CALISTA, the daughter of EUBULUS. received the fondness of HORATIO with the warmth of infant-love : every person perceived the mutual attachment; and though a difference of near twelve years, left little probability of his waiting for her, yet none could forbear withing fuch an union.

When HORATIO had regularly finished his studies at the University, he made the tour of Europe; and, in the ruins of Greece and Egypt, read the vanity of human grandeur. He constantly corresponded with EUBULUS; and as the unmeaning curiofity of seeing fights, was not the motive of his travelling, by the justnels and depth of his remarks, gladdened the good heart of his friend. After fix years, thus agreeably and usefully spent, he returned to England, improved with the knowledge, and untainted with the vices, of the many countries he had feen. He was now in his 28th year. and marked to public notice-by every striking advantage of fortune, person and understanding; but with all these. I would not be thought to draw a character speculatively faultless. of Youth, health and affluence, often hurried him into excelles, which reason cannot justify, though the interested complaisance of the world will scarce allow them to be faults. In him, indeed, the indulgence of natural appetites was never aggravated into a greater crime, by perfidy or force; and the superior reason. doidur chair near Libertuce, alagor an than venaine

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which governed every cooler moment, promifed foon to bring even these irregularities under its obedience.

The first visit of his inclination, after his return, was to EUBULUS, where he was most agreeably surprized to find GALISTA, the fifter of his choice, grown to a ftate of perfection he had never feen before. He viewed her with delight, but ever with the eyes of a brother, as she did him with those of a fister. That affection had taken fo deep a root in their hearts, no beauty could raise a desire to supplant it. After a fortnight spent in the most fincere happiness, HORATIO returned to London, where a constant succession of pleasures dissipated every ferious thought: but while his time stole thus unheeded away, a scene was acted in the family of EUBULUS, that rouzed him from this delufive dream.

Soon after HORATIO left the country, a gentleman had been in the neighbourhood of EUBULUS, whose name was LOTHARIO. His father had, from a low beginning in some of the public offices, risen to employments that enabled him to amass a considerable fortune. In the course of this success, LOTHARIO was educated about the court, with a view of purfuing it : he was handsome; and a flow of mirth and spirits made his conversation entertaining. The death of his father, just as he was of age, enabled him to imitate the lives of those, whose rank and fortune had always been proposed to his ambition. He plunged into every expence which is called genteel at home, till he had diffressed his affairs; and then, to complete his character, went to travel. HORATIO had met him abroad, but their different turns prevented any connection : while merit, and a defire of improvement, introduced HORATIO to all of real eminence; profusion and debauchery distinguished LOTHARIO in every court of Europe. Such a life foon finished the ruin of his fortune; but that he difregarded; many examples made him hope to repair it in the very way it was first raised, by getting into some employment, which his extensive acquaintance among the great flattered him he was secure of. With this view, hel returned to England a year or two before HORATIO, when he put every scheme in practife, but without success. A small estate near EUBULUS, almost all that remained

of the earnings of his father's life, brought him into that country, where his shewy appearance, and the novelty of his conversation, soon caught the public notice: ignorance and inexperience were dazzled and delighted; but EUBULUS foon faw the man through all this tinfel, and behaved to him with that distant civility which is due from, and to, every gentleman. Happy had CALISTA feen with his eyes, or never feen LOTHARIO! She was then in that most critical point of life when Inclination begins to rebel within, before the younger fifter Prudence has got strength to restrain her; and Man, with all his wiles, affails without. LOTHARIO no sooner saw her, than her beauty tempted his defires, and her fortune his necessities; but he had observed her father's coolness to him; and to elude his penetration, required the nicelt art. He met Calista but in public; but soon saw that the returned his general complaifance with a smile of pleasure and approbation. The encouragement raised a hope, which he was fensible depended on surprize: he, therefore, gained her maid, and by her means wrote to CALESTA in the most passionate strain, professing his love, and complaining of fome cross circumstances in his affairs, which made it improper for him to declare openly what was the glory of his heart; but promised to do it very foon, in a manner that should meet the approbation of her father, and prove his fincerity. Stale as this deceit was, it caught her inexperience: she believed him, answered his letter, and begun a correspondence that led her infensibly into ruin. In short, she was prevailed on first to give him a private meeting; and then, on the most facred assurances of immediate marriage, to go off before him to London.-Through this whole intrigue, he had behaved with the most consummate art; he had never been at her father's, and even affected to flight his acquaintance; of CALISTA he never spoke, but in the loose phrase of common liking, never shewed any particular notice of her when they happened to meet, nor any surprize when she was missed; after which, he even stayed some days in the country, to prevent all probability of suspicion. When he had her safe, his mind was at ease; he did not doubt but her father would give his fortune to induce him to marry her; or

if he would not, such beauty was a temptation to any thing, and might affift his hopes in another not uncommon way.

At this very time, HORATIO was on a private party of pleasure in the country, on his return from which, he was aftonished with an account that CALISTA had disappeared, and was suspected to have gone to him? The aggravations of such an affair from his friends were unnecessary to a delicacy like his, wounded to death by the bare suspicion, not to mention what his heart felt for the grief of her father, for the lofs of her fo fincerely dear to him. Burfting with the conscious indignation of injured virtue, he wrote to his friends in the strongest terms of exculpation, he flew to EUBULUS, but there he could gain no admission. Direct proof against him there was none, but many circumstances confirmed a presumption, little short of it. His avowed love for CALISTA, his constant warm praise of her, his eagerness in the pursuit of pleasure, his turn for intrigue, and above all, his absence at the very time of her elopement, which the nature of the party he was engaged in, would not admit his honor to explain (for on her disappearing, her father had dispatched a truffy friend to look after him) had scarce left a doubt of his having been the betrayer of her innocence and inexperience. Indignation alone supported HORATIO in this shock. He resolved to find CALISTA, if possible by any human means; and returning directly to London, fet every emissary on the enquiry, that feemed to promife the least shadow of fuccess: but all his endeavors were in vain. This difappointment, and despair after fix months incessant fearch, added fuch a weight to his diffres, that he funk under it, and resolved to leave a country where such a charge was against him, beyond the power of innocence to refute. He told this resolution to his friends, and had it communicated to EUBULUS, who would receive no letter directly from him, and was just ready to go, when an unexpected event altered his defign. which be even furthern days and we want to

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No. 67. Friday, October 7th, 1757.

Durate, et vosmet rebus servate secundis. VIRG.

A S foon as LOTHARIO followed CALISTA to London, he rushed into her arms with all the eagerness of passion, and obtained by surprize and force the enjoyment of those charms, his persidy had before brought into his power. Professions of eternal love soothed her complainings, and a pretence of necessity always answered her urging the performance of

his promife of marriage.

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In a little time, possession sated his desires, and then the vicious perverseness of his nature would not permit him to carry his first scheme into execution. Desperate as his fortune was, he could not think of marrying her, and to relolved to make her beauty the means of recovering his interest, which he could plainly see fallen, with his acquaintances about court. But here there was a new difficulty: though CALISTA had been betrayed by him, her heart was still invariably virtuous, nor could all his art draw vice in such a light, that the did not always turn from the fight with horror. A new deceit must therefore be practised; to accomplish which he feigned the most passionate tenderness, but in the midst of it, would drop broken hints of uneafiness that put her foul upon the rack. When she had been tortured thus for some time, he one day with looks of deepest contern told her he must go into the country for a few days. Her fituation was then deplorable, left a prey to her own reflections and fears, without fociety, comfort or advice, for the never would confent to be feen by any person, since she came to London. The third morning of his absence, she was surprized at a visit from a gentleman, to whom she was a perfect stranger. At first she thought it must have proceeded from mistake,

but his addressing her by her name, and presenting her a letter from LOTHARIO, opened the scene of horror. The letter was in these words - " My dearest CALISTA " will do justice to the anguish that tears my foul, as I " write this letter. Your father is inexorable, I am " ruined, and obliged to fly England for ever. But let " what will be my fate, yours I must ever be anxious " for; and as the only means in my power, have recommended you to the kind protection of lord BELL-" MOUR, who will deliver you this letter. In his " love may you enjoy happiness, uninterrupted by the " thought of my misery, which death shall speedily put " an end to."—At this word she funk in a swoon. On her recovery she found herself alone with her maids, lord BELLMOUR having withdrawn to leave them more at liberty to affift her, with a promise of calling to see her in the evening. This was some comfort; and after a flood of tears had given ease to her grief, she at once faw into the scheme of ruin laid for her, and immediately took a resolution worthy of the virtue of her education. She wrote these words directly to HORATIO: " HORATIO is called instantly to the rescue of his once " loved fifter, CALISTA." This billet was delivered to HORATIO, the very day before he meant to fet out for France. He flew with the messenger, received CALISTA to his heart, and on the first hint of her situation, removed her directly to the house of a lady, whose virtue and discretion he was affured of. As he judged that his presence must distress her, he left her instantly; and as foon as he got home, wrote her the most comforting affurance of his protection and regard, recommending the lady she was with, to her confidence. The first motions of his heart prompted him to feek LOTHARIO directly; but a moment's reflection made him write first to EUBULUS for his advice, in an affair of fuch delicacy. The behavior of HORATIO restored CALISTA to as much tranquility as her fituation would admit. Penitence and gratitude for her escape poured balm into the wounds of her foul. She wrote to HORATIO next morning, by the lady she was with, and referred him for her unhappy story to her, as a proof of the confidence she placed in his recommendation. He heard it with

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with the utmost pain, and by the most tender delicacy resolved not to see her, till things should be some way fettled. A few days brought him the answer of EUBU-LUS, whose grief and resentment had so overpowered his reason, that he thought the story of LOTHARIO all a fict on, and that HURATIO, fated with enjoyment, wanted to complete his perfidy, by throwing CALISTA back upon her father. In this perfualion he answered his letter with the highest resentment, disclaiming in bitterness of heart all suture connection with him, or her. Severe as this was to the heart of HORATIO, he had no remedy. He resolved to provide for CALISTA, but was much at a loss how to do it, in the manner most effectual to secure her happiness. Fortune assisted him. He had a large estate in Ireland, the tenant of which came at that very time to him, for a renewal of his leafe. He was a gentleman of worth, who had been long and happily married, but without children. Ho-RATIO immediately broke the affair to him, and his wife, who had come with him to fee some relations in London, and agreed with them that GALISTA should go to Ireland with them, as a relation of his wife's. and that he should allow him 100% a year, for her and her fervant's board and lodging. He fettled befide 2004 a year, for her other occasions, for the payment of which, for her life, he gave her an assignment on his estate in Ireland. He wrote word of this to CALISTA. who embraced it eagerly, objecting only to the largeness of the appointment; but this he over-ruled, and waiting on her himself, the first time he had seen her fince he had placed her with his friend, he introduced her future guardian, and his wife, to her, with whom in a few days she set out for Ireland, where they arived without any accident.

It is now proper to look back at LOTHARIO! As his going into the country was all a fiction, he heard immediately of HORATIO'S taking CALISTA; but though this disconcerted his infamous designs upon her, he dared not claim her from him. Tenderness for her character alone preserved him from being made a public example of infamy, by the resentment of HORATIO; but as soon as she was gone to Ireland he wrote him

this letter — "Sir, if your death could have been any reparation to Calista, for your baseness, you should have heard from me before this, in another manner; but as it would be rather a deliverance from the horrors of your heart, to them I leave you This cn'y I must tell you, that if you make any attempt to disturb the retreat I have provided for her, or to add to the distress of her family, by spreading your villainy, and her missortune, no power on Earth shall protect you from Horatio!"

Though LOTHARIO, in the madness of a life of riot, had given many instances of bravery, conscience here made a coward of him. He dared not call HORATIO to account for such a menace; he sunk in his own eyes, and seeing himself for sken by the friends of his for-

and feeing himself forsaken, by the friends of his fortune, and disappointed in all his hopes, he directly sold the poor residue of his estate, and lest England for ever.

By this time the refentment of EUBULUS had given place to reason. He enquired into the account sent him by HORATIO, and found it true; on which he came up to London to do justice to his virtue, and consider of some provision for CALISTA. HORATIO met him with unaffected tendernefs; he temembered all his friendship, and justly charged his feverity to nature. EUBULUS was fruck with his generofity: he instantly paid him the expence he had been at for CALISTA, and fecured to him the annuity he had settled on her: though Ho-RATIO was far from defiring this, there was no refuling to accept it from a father. The place of retreat was approved; and EUBULUS was prevailed on to write her a letter of forgiveness and bleffing. This compleated the happiness of CALISTA, whose youth, health and fweetness of disposition, had almost got the better of her grief before, and made her dear to all who knew her. Far different was the state of LOTHARIO! remembrance of palt pleasures, and conscious guilt, made life a real hell to him; and to complete his mifery, he found he loved CALISTA, when he had lost all hope of ever feeing her more.

Near two years passed on thus, when lord LOVEworth, a nobleman in the neighbourhhood of Ca-LISTA, sell in love with her. Her beauty, her accomplishmac He frie

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accomplishments, and the splendor of her appearance, made him think her a match not unworthy of him. He spoke to her, and asked her leave to apply to her friends: this was a severe difficulty. She was not insensible to his merit; but her delicate sense of honor would not permit her to receive any addresses : she therefore candidly told him, that any application would be in vain, as some uncommon circumstances in her life made it probable she should never marry. Such an answer but inflamed him more: he would not be refused; she could not explain. In this embarrassment the wrote to Ho-RATIO, with whom the conflantly corresponded, with the freedom of a fifter, and owned ingenuously her liking for lord LOVEWORTH, but declared absolutely, that the would never enter into any engagement while LOTHARIO lived, whose oaths she had always looked on as equal to the most folemn marriage. He communi-cated her letter to her father; and they both admired and approved her conduct. Lord LOVEWORTH, in the mean time, pressed her so earnestly, that she had no way to repress his importunity, but by discovering to him the real truth, though under an honest disguise. She told him that the had, when very young, been deceived into a marriage with a man unworthy of her, who had fled England; on which she had been fent to Ireland, till time should soften her father's resentment, and wear off the remembrance of her folly: the added, that the was convinced her husband would never return, but she had reconciled herself to her fate; and now that his lordship knew her real situation, should be glad of his friendship on a proper footing. This confidence, at the fame time that it destroyed his hopes, confirmed him hers for ever; he told her fo, with a politive affeveration, that he could never think of another woman: to which the as generoully replied, that were the mistress of herfelf. he should be her choice of all men. As she never concealed any thing from HORATIO, he began to tremble for her. He knew the danger of friendship between the fexes. and feared lord LOVEWORTH might have deligns too common : he communicated his fears, and put her on her guard. A year had passed thus, when HORATIO acquainted Calista, that Lothario had ended his Cc 2 days.

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days miserably in a monastery in Spain. The news affected her: she could not think of him without concern, notwithstanding his baseness; and a flood of unmerited tears were paid to his unhappy fate. But now a new difficulty embatraffed her; the faw lord Love-WORTH constantly; to own the death of her husband. would give him a right to the preference the had acknow-Jedged; to conceal it, was continuing in voluntary distress. She wrote to HORATIO, and to her father, for advice, who, in confidence of her own discretion and virtue, lest her to herself. Her situation was now delicate, indeed; but the fincerity of her temper took the way most worthy of her. She wrote lord LOVEWORTH the account of LOTHARIO's death; and, at the same time, a faithful history of herself. He was struck with true greatness of mind—He went to her directly, and claimed her promise. She referred him to her father, whose approbation was not long delayed. He and Ho-RATIO went over, where every circumstance was concluded to the happiness of all parties. Not long after which, by the interest of his son-in-law, EUBULUS was promoted to a bishopric in that kingdom, where his merit and virtue have gained him univerful love and respect, and where his happiness is compleated in that of his daughter, and her numerous family. Cinterpolar sub explor can la somerdaremen eds la



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